SENATE FISH AND GAME
EXHIBIT NO. 7
DATE 1-22-13
BILL NO. SB 101

Chairman Brenden and Members of the Committee-

My name is Jerry Davis and as a board member of the Montana Bowhunters Association I represent them for this testimony. I appreciate the opportunity to give MBA's stance concerning this bill.

MBA supports SB 101 because it makes changes to the law that will better meet the laws original intent. This amendment removes language that allows an individual to hunt from a vehicle solely based on a handicap of an amputated hand or foot.

Though having a foot or hand amputated is a handicap it is by no means a justifiable reason in itself to allow an individual to hunt from a vehicle. As an example - one of my dear friends in Billings lost his arm to cancer shortly after leaving college. Though the loss of his arm is a handicap, he has learned to overcome. In fact he regularly out shoots me during our occasional pheasant hunts.

I think he would agree with me that there is no reason for him to have to hunt from a vehicle.

Additionally this bill removes language from the law which requires a medical professional to make a subjective observation of an individual's ability to pass an arbitrary test described in the law.

Instead it requires the individual to be nonambulatory, defined to mean permanently, physically reliant on a wheelchair or a similar compensatory appliance or device for mobility. This I believe was the original intent of the law.

These amendments leave less opportunity for abuse, and for that reason I ask that you vote yes for SB 101.

Thank you.