SENATE JUDICIARY
EXHIBIT NO. 4
DATE 1/18/13
BILL NO. SB 110

HOME GROUND RADIO®

PO Box 748
Helena, Montana 59624

(406) 444-8744
brian.kahn@earthlink.net

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Senator Taylor Brown

Dear Taylor,

I am writing in support of your highly important crime prevention bill, SB 110. It will help to prepare our communities for a new level and type of crime that is coming their way. It will without question save some Montana children and families from tragedy.

Your bill will encourage cities and rural communities to develop plans to get ahead of the curve in preventing and coping with serious problems such as child sex trafficking and domestic violence, as experienced with the North Dakota boom and that are coming our way.

The clear need for this preventative approach was demonstrated at a 3-day 2012 Glasgow law enforcement conference attended by 130 law enforcement folks – FBI, US Department of Justice, Canadian police, North Dakota and Montana Attorneys General, Montana and N.D. police and sheriffs. Their purpose: To plan and coordinate for the crime surge the energy boom will bring to the towns of eastern Montana.

In two of the Home Ground programs I did there, law enforcement officials provided clear statements on the nature of the problems headed our way. In one, an Assistant U.S. Attorney and an FBI agent described how ruthless men manipulate girls' low self-esteem to recruit them for a "romantic relationship" which they then turn into child prostitution. I have done roughly 800 interviews for Home Ground, but I had to stop the recording session to get control over my emotions. (I will gladly provide you and other legislators with program CDs.)

Your bill will encourage our schools, cities and counties to take preventative action for what is coming, to use proven prevention and mitigation tools to reduce the risk of tragic outcomes for Montana family and kids.

As a former elected and appointed official, and most fundamentally, as a citizen and father, I do not see how we can do anything less.

Brian Kahn