

CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THIS COMMITTEE

I SINCERELY WISH I COULD BE IN HELENA TODAY TO TESTIFY IN FAVOR OF HB200, UNFORTUNATELY I HAVE PREVIOUS COMMIMENTS WHICH I CAN NOT CHANGE.

I WAS AN AIRLINE PILOT FOR THE BETTER PART OF 35 YEARS HAVING FLOWN FOR CONTINENTAL AIRLINES AND LATER FOR AMERICAN TRANS AIR.

DURING THOSE LONG AND OFTEN TURBULENT YEARS THE JOB BECAME MORE SCRUTINIZED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

DRUG TESTING WAS INTROUDCED DURING THE REIGN OF ELIZABETH DOLE AS SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION. DUE SIMPLY TO A SUBWAY OPERATOR IN NEW YORK RUNNING INTO A WALL, NOW ALL OF A SUDDEN ALL PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THE TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY ARE SUBJECT TO DRUG TESTING.

MY FIRST BASELINE TESTING WAS PERFORMED AT A CLINIC ON PINE STREET IN SPOKANE WASHINGTON. I WAS LIVING IN LIBBY MONTANA AT THE TIME SO I HAD TO, AT MY OWN EXPENSE AND TIME, DRIVE TO SPOKANE ONE MORNING – URNIATE INTO A CUP – AND THEN REVERSE COURSE TO LIBBY. I HAD TO COMPLY OR LOSE MY JOB.

MANY YEARS OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING FOLLOWED, SOME AT MY SEMI-ANNUAL PHYSICALS, SOME AT RANDOM WHILE WORKING.

I SPENT MANY NIGHTS IN CHICAGO AT MY OWN EXPENSE DUE TO LAST MINUTE RANDOM TESTING THAT WOULD NOT ALLOW ME TO CATCH THE LAST FLIGHT HOME THAT NIGHT.

ONE EARLY MORNING (5:00AM) RANDOM ALCOHOL TESTING LASTED FOR THREE DAYS IN SUCCESSION.

THE FACT THAT THE WORKING PEOPLE, THE TAXPAYERS, HAVE TO ACCEPT THIS STANDARD WITH NO RECOURSE HARDLY MAKES ME FEEL

SORRY FOR WELFARE RECIPIENTS WHOM SOME SAY WILL BE
EMBARRASSED AND DEGRADED BY THE EXPERIENCE.

QUITE FRANKLY, I'M TIRED OF THE TAIL WAGGING THE DOG.

SINCERELY,

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