



The Big Sky Country

EXHIBIT 10
DATE 1/21/15
HB 25

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPONSOR'S REBUTTAL TO FISCAL NOTE

House Bill Number: **HB 25** Date Prepared: 1/17/2015
Short Title:

Sponsor: Rep. Margie MacDonald

Generally, why do you disagree with the fiscal note?

I disagree that the Dept. of Corrections would need to apply for a federal grant in order to come up with vouchers for suitable housing for paroled inmates.

Specifically, what in the fiscal not do you feel is flawed?

(Describe specific assumptions, calculations, technical issues, etc.)

The alternative housing for the offenders affected by this bill is incarceration for the same period, which costs either \$137,970 (MT State Prison) or \$142,452 (MT Women's Prison).

Thus, the actual savings for this legislation would be \$81,720 and \$86,202.

In addition, I reviewed housing markets in Helena (during the legislature session) and consulted with landlords from Billings and found that the \$3,752 is on the high end. I found a variation of \$2,400 - \$3,000 for 1 or 2 bedroom apartments. Helena during the Legislative session and Billings during an economic upturn both would be on the higher end of rental markets.

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What is your estimate of the fiscal impact?

HB 25 will save the state of Montana \$81,720 - \$86,202 per year.

Sponsor Signature:

Thayer E. Hill
