EXHIBIT 4
DATE 1/22/15
HB 165

My name is Laura Glueckert and I am here today with my husband in support of this Guardian Ad Litum amendment to the current Grandparents Rights Law.

I am a first time Grandma of a beautiful 20 month old grandson, Mason.

My daughter in law faxed divorce papers to my son who is currently serving in the US Army, 3 days prior from being deployed to Kuwait for a year.

Because of the circumstances, the only time we have been able to see our grandson has been a 1 hour visit at her mobile home once a week for 3 months. At these visits we were in a very small area on the floor playing with our grandson with her standing 8 feet away watching us. We have only had supervised visits, as she testified in court she didn't trust us.

We had always supported her from the day my son started dating her, thru her pregnancy, which was when our son went into the Army, during his basic training and his Advanced Technical training, and after she had Mason, until she faxed him the divorce papers prior to his deployment.

My husband and I filed suit against her under the current Grandparents law, as we definitely believe it is in our Grandson's best interest for him to know us. Our case went to District court and my daughter in law testified and acknowledged in court it was important for her son to have a relationship with us, but that it was her "right" not to let us. The Judge's ruling denied us, and did not explain or give us a reason for the denial. We were stunned!

All we want is the same thing our grandson's other grandparents have; to see our grandson with "unsupervised" visits and enjoy quality time with him and not under stressful supervised visits.

How in the world can her "right" be in our grandson's best interest?

Our son has wanted us to have a relationship with his son from the day he was born and with him being in the military, this is the perfect example of why the Grandparents law should have been enforced.

We currently have advanced our case to the Montana Supreme Court because of the Judge's ruling. If there is a law and it's not being enforced then what is the purpose of the law?

My heart breaks, not to be able to spend quality time with my grandson. During the supervised visits, my husband and I were happy to see our grandson although they were very stressful. My daughter in law also testified in court these visits were stressful and **acknowledged** they were not in Mason's best interest. Because of the lack of a relationship with our daughter in law, and the stress during these visits to us, my husband

and I believed it was not in our grandson's best interest to continue with these supervised visits.
In court, I testified I would NEVER want my grandson's maternal grandparents to go thru what we were going thru. Mason deserves to know all of his family on both his maternal and paternal sides no matter what the relationship is with my son and her parents or her with us. It is not Mason's fault this has happened.

It is very painful knowing that I have a beautiful grandson I can't see unsupervised because of his mother's dislike towards my husband and me and that it is her "right" to deny us the relationship between us and our grandson. **What about my son's right as Mason's father? What about my grandson's right to know ALL of his family**? **What about my right to know my grandson?** It is hard for me to comprehend her reasoning for such cruelty towards us, to our son and especially to her own son.

In the last year and a half, other than the two times our son has been home for short visits on leave from the military, my husband and I have seen our grandson for a total of 12 hours, all of which have been very stressful "supervised" visits under his mother watchful eye.

We so want to be a part of our grandsons life, to show him how much we love him, to play with him, take him for walks, get ice cream – make many happy memories, all the things that grandparents are supposed to do with their grandchildren. We are unable to do any of those things with only supervised visits.

This Guardian Ad Litum amendment to the current Grandparents Rights law is very important to my husband and me as well as many other grandparents who are fighting the fight to see their grandchildren and for those who aren't for whatever reason. However, more importantly, it is for all of the grandchildren who deserve to know ALL of their grandparents and I firmly believe it is in my grandson's best interest as well as all grandchildren.

We have missed out on so many important "firsts", such as rolling over, crawling, walking, talking – his first tooth and many memories that could have been made already in his young life.

I am asking for your support for this amendment as our grandson Mason deserves to know his Maama and Bumpa.

Thank you