

SENATE FINANCE & CLAIMS

Exhibit No. 6

Date 3-6-15

Bill No. HB 47

(S) Finance and Claims Committee
Honorable Llew Jones, Chairman
Honorable Bob Keenan, Vice Chair
64th Montana Legislature
Capital Building - Helena, Mt.

March 6, 2015

RE: HB 47 – Appropriate money for youth crisis diversion projects

Chairman Jones and Committee Members:

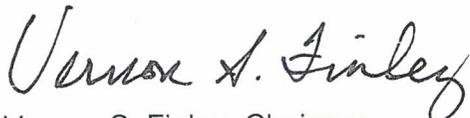
The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (“CSKT”) support HB 47 because it provides for additional mental health crisis resources at the local level. Promoting community collaboration will lead to better-tailored and more efficient solutions to mental health crises where they occur.

HB 47 would also help create solutions for youths who are uninsured or whose insurance does not cover the cost of service. Providing effective short-term residential crisis care may diminish the need for more expensive long-term care.

I want to thank the bill sponsor, Carolyn Pease-Lopez, for introducing Mental Health legislation that provides for community based solutions.

The CSKT urge committee support of this bill and positive action on it.

Respectfully submitted,



Vernon S. Finley, Chairman
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes