

Exhibit No. 7

Date 2/16/2015

Bill No. SB 206

My name is Dave Abbott. I'm the Executive Director of the Great Falls Community Food Bank.

I would like to inform you that the Great Falls Community Food Bank strongly opposes SB 206. In fact there are so many ways this bill will do more harm than good; I will have to limit myself to just a couple so as not to use up more than my allotted time.

First of all, the broad restrictions that this bill would put on our disadvantaged citizens would have a domino effect and place a crushing burden on Montana's local food banks and pantries.

This bill will adversely affect thousands of Montana women, children and seniors who for whatever reason, depend on Food Banks and pantries.

By removing many healthy foods from the diets of the disadvantaged, you will be asking already burdened food banks and pantries to provide an even bigger portion of a healthy diet---for kids, and people who are between jobs, looking for work, waiting for a first paycheck, choosing between food or prescription drugs, or just temporarily laid up.

People who are in dire need of nutritional food. And the fact is, these food banks and pantries will not be able to fill the enormous gap. In fact, the shortage of available food that this bill would create is nothing short of devastating. We have evidence that hunger and poor nutrition lead to lower grades and missed days in school, poor job performance and a variety of health problems. Let's help Montana's kids, workers and seniors.

Let's give them a chance to get out of their situation by continuing to provide them with the food they need to improve their lot.

As the executive director of the Great Falls Community Food Bank I strongly urge you to vote no on SB 206.