### MINUTES OF THE MEETING PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE MONTANA STATE SENATE

March 13, 1987

The mmeting of the Senate Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee was called to order by Chairman Dorothy Eck on March 13, 1987, in Room 325 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members of the committee were present.

ACTION ON H.B. 364: Karen Renne explained two sets of amendments to H.B. 364. Sen. Meyer moved that the first set of amendments receive a DO PASS. The vote to pass was unanimous.

The second set of amendments stated that only the denturist and the public members could vote on matters relating solely to denturists and that that provision would sunset in 1989. Sen. Himsl moved that the amendment DO PASS.

Sen. Williams: Then if the business concerns only dentists, then only the dentists vote?

Karen Renne: That is not significant because the public members and the hygenists are required to vote.

Sen. Rassmussen: The president of the board is a dentist and he would be voting on denturity matters.

Karen Renne: The president of the board is not necessarily a dentist.

Sen. Rassmussen: If the dentists do not vote on denturist matters, then the denturist should not vote on dentist matters. That was the original amendment and I move that it be substituted for the second set of amendments. The vote on the substitute motion was unanimous.

Sen. Vaughn: I move that H.B. 471 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED. Nine senators voted in favor of the amendment; Sen. Norman voted no. Sen. Jacobson will carry the bill.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 637: Rep. Cal Winslow, District # 89, sponsor of H.B. 637, opened his testimony by stating that the SRS budget alone will be \$200,000,000 in 1988 and \$289,000,000 in 1989. The budget needs to be balanced among University and education needs, human services and other necessary state services. The Supreme Court has taken out of the hands of the legislature the ability to set priorities and something now has to fall by the wayside. This bill gives power rightfully back to the legislature to set spending priorities. If this bill passes, the people of the state will have the right to vote and to determine that they want the legislature to set the spending priorities. In the last ten years the growth in human services has been phenomenal. AFDC has increased from \$29,000,000 to \$93,000,000, while Medicaid has increased from \$33,000,000 to \$330,000,000 in the last ten years. The bill does not make for easy decisions for the legislature, but it does give the legislature the ability to set priorities.

PROPONENTS: Budd R. Gould, Rep. District # 61, testified that he will never

forget his first experience at Boulder in 1974 and the 110% turnover in staff. By 1983, Boulder had a much lesser turnover. As a member of the National Committee on the Handicapped, he visits in California and New York and finds that they are way behind Montana in services. Montana is a model, but it needs to set priorities to continue good services. He stated that he has faith that the public will vote correctly and that the Legislature will be able to work on priorities, such a de-institutionalization programs. Montana can't do a good job if it is totally devoid of funds.

Dave Lewis, SRS, testified that he proposed this legislation three sessions ago; the budget was \$6,000,000 short then and, at that time, he urged the legislature to set priorities. He felt that the lowest priority were the able-bodied unemployed under thirty-five with no children. That legislation was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, as was legislation at the next session to eliminate assistance to the able-bodied under fifty to sixty days a year, if they had no dependent children. In Jan., 1986, the Supreme Court again held this law unconstitutional. The court developed a middletier test which the legislature should apply to all public assistance legislation: that its classification of welfare recipients is reasonable and that its interest in classifying welfare recipients is more important than the people's interest in obtaining welfare benefits. Saving momey is to be balanced against the interests of misfortunate people. A district court judge recently ruled that the termination of benefits to "able-bodied" persons did not meet the "reasonableness" test. The Montana State Supreme Court is the first court in the nation to establish this "middle-tier" test for welfare legislation, and it is believed that the court will apply this test to federal welfare programs, as well. Montana is not required to adopt these programs (Medicaid, AFDC, food stamps), but it it does, the federal government will only reimburse the state if eligibility is determined in accordance with federal rules. If the Montana courts determine that federal eligibility rules do not meet the higher standard of review, then 100% of state funds must be used to pay for equivalent welfare assistance. The Legislature needs to have control over this spending and to set priorities. This bill will place that control back in the hands of the legislature. Exhibit # 1.

Rep. Bob Marks, District # 75, testified that the legislature has been struggling with priorities in the budget. If the welfare budget is out of control, then it can't be balanced with the other needs of the state. The legislature has been compassionate, but limitations are reasonable when there are other priorities. The voters should have the option to vote on the issue.

Riley Johnson, Federation of Independent Businesses, stated that the people who are paying the bills should establish the priority in spending money. The people have designated the legislature to determine priorities and set spending.

Vera Cahoon, Missoula County Freeholders, stated that the taxpayers support and want the legislature to have the power to prioritize needs and to bring the budget into line with available monies.

Julie Hacker, taxpayer, stated that a constitutional amendment is appropriate with the state's large budget problem. Rising costs and rising taxes are a strain on the state's population. The issue should be put on the ballot for the taxpayers to decide.

Diane McGibbon, Small Business Association, Helena, stated that they favor the amendment, because the state needs to control spending for business and economic growth.

<u>OPPONENTS</u>: George Harper, Montana Associaiton of Churches and himself, delegate to the 1972 constitutional convention, stated that the MAC opposes making the provision of services to those in need an optional service rather than a mandated duty of the state legislature. Instead of having a constitution which says that the legislature <u>shall</u> provide such economic and rehabilitative services as may be necessary for us, the constitutional amendment says that the legislature <u>may</u> provide such help, and when <u>may</u> is used, <u>may not</u> is understood by anyone who can read the English language. The constitution then would say: The legislature <u>may or may not</u> provide aid.... The framers of the constitution never questioned the idea of the state's responsibility for helping its citizens who cannot help themselves. The thought that it might be optional never occurred to the delegates. The first state constitution also assumed the burden of providing necessary aid; the question was merely "by whom".

The bill agrees with the constitution in several provisions until it states that the legislature finds it in the public interest to restore to the legislature the power to prescribe the provision of economic assistance and social and rehabilitative services to those in need...but the WHEREASES in the previous statements stated that the legislature always had that power. Then the THEREFORE wants to refer the amendment to the people of Montana in order to restore the historical power to the legislature to set programs and services.

The basic change in all this is the use of the word <u>may</u>, which makes the services optional. Now the legislature may or may not be mandated to provide services. The bill should read: <u>for</u> allowing the legislature the option of not providing services, or <u>against</u> allowing the legislature the option of not providing services to those in need. The MCA hopes that the legislature will not abandon its historical position as expressed in both state constitutions. There should be absolutely no question as to whether those in need can expect help in a civilized society. <u>Exhibit # 2</u>.

Estrella Vayasimon, Butte-Silverbow community, stated that basic human needs should not be compromised by the political process. Those in need are least able to participate in the political process. This bill would return the state to a dark age of starvation and disease. Caring for the needy should not be such a political decision. Budget constraints should not destroy taking care of human needs. Exhibit # 3.

Jean-Marie Souvigney, League of Women Voters, stated that the league supports assistance to meet basic human needs for persons unable to work or for whom jobs are not available. While the league understands the state's frustration

of trying to make budget ends meet in a depressed economy, the League opposes amending the constitution as the only way to address those costs. The league reminds the committee that the court decided that there is no constitutional right to welfare, and it not a right upon which constitutionally guaranteed rights depend. In addressing the the state law adopted last year, the Supreme court found that the state had failed to show that misfortunate people under the age of fifty are more capable of surviving without assistance than are people over the age of fifty. These divisions are arbitrary, and our law was declared unconstitutional.

There are twenty-three bills to amend the constitution this session, and the legislature needs to decide at what point you don't have to amend the constitution to solve the state's problems. In this case, the state has the ability now to determine benefit levels and funding for optional services, and the legislature is looking at several alternatives on dealing with welfare costs. The league urges the legislature to look at these alternatives before amending the constitution in such a drastic way. This bil amends the constitution to allow the legislature to decide whether to provide such services, even when the legislature has determined that there is a need. Exhibit # 4.

Willa Dean, Montana Senior Citizens, Billings, stated that the senior citizens feel that passage of this bill will cause very real problems for Montana's citizens, and she presented to the committee petitions from Billings of people who oppose this bill. Exhibit # 5.

Wilbur Johnson, Great Falls, Low Income Coalition, stated that it is the purpose of the legislature to provide services to reduce suffering from infirmities and to provide assistance to those suffering from other problems. Jobs need to be created for many more people to help solve the problem. Exhibit # 6.

Paul Carpino, Ovando, Regional Coordinator for Hands Across America, stated that he organized the northwest states for this demonstration. He has found that homelessness is a rapidly growing problem in this country and that one third of the homeless are children. Other states have even more serious problems than Montana, because Montana has had a committment to take care of its own. Other states are impressed with Montana's compassion, and that the state has largely prevented homelessness through its policies. There are other forms of just alternatives to solving the state's budget problems besides this amendment.

Dan Shea, Helena lawyer, member of the Montana Supreme Court for eight years, testified that if the legislature is going to submit this constitutional amendment to the people, then they should do it honestly. As it is, it is fraud on the voters of Montana, a fraud on the recipients of aid, who are the scapegoats, because, at present, the legislature has all the power it needs. The Supreme Court simply said that the state must act fairly. The legislature always has the right and the power to abolish the constitutional provision to welfare. There is no need to amend the constitution and the people need to be told that. The Legislature would never dare to deal with the provision of institutions in this way, but they are willing to scapegoat people in need. The legislature is saying "how we want to be our brother's keeper."

Jack Zink, Montana State AFL-CIO, stated that the framers of the Constitution made clear Montana's committment to providing economic assistance and social rehabilitation services for those inhabitants who may have need of it. H. B. 637 proposes to soften the constitution just when a stagnant job market and crumbling economy are worse than they have been since the Depression. Montana has one of the highest rates of unemployment in the nation and has many people working only part-time because full-time employment is not available. Unemployment is a big, persistent, state and national problem with very serious costs and low incomes and poverty. These problems bring daily concern and daily tragedy for many Montanans and their families. Now, through H.B. 637, the legislature is seeking to reduce general assistance that has historically been the life line for those who have fallen through the "safety net". This bill allows the state to turn its back on those who have no place else to turn. Montana may create a permanent class of unemployed and a polarized, two-tier society. Exhibit # 7.

Judith Carlson, Montana Chapter, National Association of Social Workers, and the Montana Senior Citizens, questioned the motivation of this amendment to the state constitution, stating that there is a widespread perception that the Legislature can do nothing to control the costs of welfare. Because the court has overturned a couple of pieces of legislation to restrict programs, the legislature semms to have adopted a "nothing we try" works attitude without this constitutional amendment. She represents people who receive payments for medicaid and social workers who provide services and receive payments for professional services; both "sides of the fence" say there is no need to change our constitution. Both SRS and the Legislature now have the authority to control rising costs; SRS has already stabilized GA costs hamanely and SRS has used Medicaid to fund many problem areas that would otherwise have to be funded out of the general fund at a higher cost. Unfortunately, health care costs have escalated at far beyond the regular inflation rates. Other economic factors, such as-the Arab nations lowering the price of oil and agricultural policies that have gone awry, have affected the state's adversely; should we let these factors control what we think is best for the people of Montana? Exhibit # 8.

Pamela Marshall, Montana People's Action, stated that the bill would open the door to too many cuts, which could cause future catastrophies. By reducing the funds available for public assistance, the legislature is seeking shortterm goals without regard for long-term results. As a single mother living on AFDC while attending college, this bill threatens her future and the future of her children because the funds she uses to go to college to prepare her for a better-paying job in a technological society will very likely be cut. By using those funds now to obtain an education, she will remove the stigma from herself of being an uneducated person on public welfare and become a productive person in society with the ability to inspire her own children. She also opposed the legislation because the legislature is too far removed from the immediate needs of the people and the people with great expertise in these area should regulate these programs. Exhibit # 9.

Jim Morton, Human Development Resource Councils, stated that while there is a need to control the general assistance budget, nevertheless, the HRDC's are working to make sure that they are running well-serving programs; their clients are involved in work training and work search. The people running the programs do understand their obligations to the legislature and to the public and are committed to controlling costs. But, nonetheless, a right to assistance is a fundamental right of the people of the state.

Linda Foss, Missoula Workfare recipient, stated that she works forty-two hours a week, plus spends additional hours in volunteer work, trying to help others. She stated that she will start school in September to become even more productive. She feels that the state will lose many people who want to work here and stay here, if this legislation is passed.

Carolynn Goode, Miss Wheelchair Montana, stated that the disabled strongly oppose H.B. 637. If the state starts cutting, where will the cutting stop?

Randy Rachlis, Helena Clergy and Laity Concerned, stated that this organization represents an interfaith community of of persons from a variety of faiths who care about the protection of human rights and the promotion of economic justice. This bill is a profound step backward in the state's sacred and public commitment to help those hit hard by adversity. The state's need to provide for social and economic justice for the poor is not an option and our Constitution should not be changed in this regard. The state should live up to this commitment, rather than break a commitment enshrined in the Constitution. Exhibit # 10.

Edith Carpenter, Montana Low-Income Coalition, Anaconda, testified that there are approximately ninety people from Anaconda on general assistance and others who are needy because of the economic times. These people would rather have jobs than depend on aid, but jobs are not available. By changing the Constitution, we are telling these people that we no longer care.

Hugh Stanley, citizen, stated that the people of this state are working but that they need help, and they have to watch their sons and daughters leave the state in order to find work.

Rev. Tony Duvernay, Cathedral St. Helena, stated that he fears for those in need now and in the future. Assistance now is practically a misnomer and it will be less in the future.

Betty Garner, Helena citizen, stated that she has worked most of her life; and while she is receiving general assistance now, she is looking and very much wants to get a job. She opposes this bill.

Diane Sands, Women's Lobbyist Fund, stated that social and economic justice should be provided for all citizens. Basic needs should be provided for, while this bill makes service discretionary and a matter of good will. The bill will affect not only general assistance, but also all other state programs such as AFDC, Child welfare, aging services, services for the developmentally disabled, etc.

There are other options to this legislation; while the WLF understands the pressures on the legislature, they have also passed many bills which are tax giveaways to many corporations in state industries. The poor do not need to be taken away from, and the state should not retreat from its commetment in the constitution.

John Ortwein, Montana Catholic Coalition, stated that the Catholic Church's concern for human life is the duty of the whole of society of which the government is a part. Society acting as a whole, through public and private institutions, has the moral responsibility to enhance human dignity and protect human rights. Government has an essential responsibility in this area to safeguard human rights and ensure that the minimum conditions of human dignity are met for all. It would seem that the drafters of the Montana Constitution had this vision when they drafted the constitution. We would hate to have this clear message changed. Exhibit # 14.

Roger Hill, Low Income Coalition, stated that if this bill passes, it might be possible that fifty percent of the people will living on the streets without food. Veterans support defeat of the bill and feel that the legislature should really concern itself with employment. People do want to work and they need training and education. Employers need to be encouraged to come here and benefits need to be good.

Steve Hall, General Assistance recipient, stated that he is on a work-fare program and has been looking for work for a long time.

Mary Jean Gould, Bozeman Housing Coalition, stated that she is two credits away from a doctorate, but that now the psychology department at MSU is being eliminated. She has lost many jobs through no fault of her own. The losses were often accompanied with the statement, "You're bright, you're talented, you'll figure it out. She fears that most bright, talented people will have to leave the state in order to find work. Exhibit # 15.

Vern Sanders, Great Falls, stated that the one-word change that the legislature desires would only be of benefit to the legislature at this time. The Constitution belongs to the people and the legislature does not have the right to change it. General Assistance recipients should not be having to travel to Helena to fight this change. If the state wre governed properly, perhaps it wouldn't have so many welfare recipients. Why is the state so far in the hole that it needs to change the Constitution? The state needs jobs and taxpayers, not people leaving.

Karen Anderson, Butte Community Union, stated that many people who oppose H.B. 637 could not be present today because of lack of transportation or because they find appearing before such a powerful body extremely frightening. Nevertheless, these people need to be remembered and their basic needs need to be remembered. Exhibit # 16.

Bob Campbell, delegate to the 1972 Constitutional Convention, stated that the legislature should take changing the Constitution very serviously. Its basic

principals are there to follow in any kind of time. The legislature has the discretion now to authorize expenditures. This bill is only going to create hysteria in the state, the ballot issue will be costly, and it won't really solve the problem.

DISCUSSION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 637: Sen. Williams: I would like to have Judith Carlson, Cal Winslow, and George Harper speak to me later because I am bothered by people not having the faith to have this voted on.

Rep. Winslow closed by stating that welfare costs are a significant issue, which all states are addressing. \$3000 are spent per minute in Montana on welfare costs, and the legislature needs the ability to fix the welfare system. It not an easy job to sit on the Appropriations committee and cut, but because of the increasing case load, they just can't offer all the services. The people testifying don't have to be responsible for going back home to the voters. Montana is a leading state in welfare expenses per capita. The people from 1972 should not have done away with the ability to amend the constitution, because people need to change it with changing times.

The courts have taken away the ability to set limits, and with no limits, no one will be working in Montana and all working pockets will be empty. The legislature is not taking away the option from the voters to vote on the amendment. The bill simply gives to the legislature the ability to set the priorities for the state.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 P.M.

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CHAIRMAN

### ROLL CALL

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### TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 637

The Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services supports House Bill 637 which has been introduced by Representative Cal Winslow. This amendment to Article XII, Section 3 of the Montana Constitution is essential in order to provide more discretion to the legislature in the adoption of statutes pertaining to public assistance benefits. On January 16, 1986 the Montana Supreme Court held unconstitutional those provisions of House Bill 843 (passed by the 1985 Montana Legislature) which restricted or denied public assistance to able-bodied persons under age 50 without dependent minor children. In its ruling the court developed a "middle-tier" test which should be applied to all public assistance legislation. This test requires that the state demonstrate two factors:

1) that its classification of welfare recipients . . . is reasonable; and

2) that its interest in classifying welfare recipients . . is more important than the people's interest in obtaining welfare benefits.

The court went on to state that there should be a balancing of the rights infringed and the governmental interest to be served by such infringement. Saving money must be balanced against the interest of misfortunate people in receiving financial assistance from the state. For example, if the state were to terminate all "able-bodied" persons from the public assistance program it might meet the first portion of the court's test regarding "reasonableness". It is questionable, however, whether such legislation

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE EXHIBIT NO. DATE 3-13-RILL NO. balar

would meet the second portion of the test which requires a balancing of the misfortunate welfare recipient's interest in receiving benefits with the state's interest in saving money and encouraging employment. A district court judge, however, recently determined that the termination of benefits to "able-bodied" persons did not meet the "reasonableness" test.

The Montana Supreme Court is the first court in the nation to establish a middle-tier (heightened scrutiny) test for welfare legislation. It is believed that the court will apply this test not only to the state general relief program but also to federal welfare programs (e.g. medicaid, AFDC, food stamps, etc.) administered by our state. Montana is not required by federal law to adopt these programs but if it does, the federal government will only reimburse the state if eligibility is determined in accordance with federal rules and regulations. In many instances it is unlikely that the federal eligibility rules would pass the higher middle-tier (heightened scrutiny) test adopted by the Montana Supreme Court. The "supremacy clause" would not preclude the application of the middle-tier test in Montana because the federal programs are optional rather than mandated by federal If Montana court determine that federal eligibility rules law. do not meet the higher standard of review, then 100% state funds must be used to pay for equivalent welfare assistance.

House Bill 637 will not by itself change the welfare system in Montana. But rather, it will place control of welfare costs in the bands of the body that must pay them.

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE EXHIBIT NO.\_. DATE BILL NO.

## Opinion and comment

# Welfare control belongs in Legislature

A proposal to amend the state constitution to let the Legislature set limits on welfare just sailed through the House, 66-32.

Before it becomes a referendum on the 1988 ballot, House Bill 637 must pass a final House vote, then pass the Senate by a margin that would give it at least 100 votes from both houses.

It's clear from the early House vote, though, that there is strong legislative support for something that will enable the lawmakers to get a handle on welfare costs.

Two legislative efforts to restrict welfare payments have been thrown out by Montana courts in the last couple of years, on grounds that they were based on arbitrary and unreasonable classification of welfare recipients.

Legislators, frustrated by what they see as loss of their power to set welfare limits, are now trying to change the constitution.

HB 637 would change from mandatory to optional the constitutional provision that the Legislature provide social and rehabilitation services for the needy.

Supporters of the amendment say that welfare-related programs will soon consume a third of the state budget.

It's important that control of

welfare costs be in the hands of the body that must pay them.

Generally, charges the amendment supporters are anti-poor probably are untrue. The House, by a wide margin, seems to be trying, almost desperately, to regain control of a major government program.

It's important to keep in mind that that amendment would do nothing by itself to change Montana's welfare system. The amendment would leave that up to the Legislature.

At the same time, it should be understood that if the amendment is adopted, it certainly would result in welfare changes. Almost surely, these would involve restrictions on welfare benefits and/or eligibility.

The details of the changes would be hammered out in the Legislature, which is the way it has always been — except that, with the amendment, the Legislature's changes would be far more likely to withstand court challenge.

The amendment would restore what many Montanans believe is a legitimate legislative power.

How that power would be used would be up to future legislators, and the people who vote for them.



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thought that if she'd spend the own drinks. V Chapel, I looke "Boy, laying or stiff neck and a

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE	۰.
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OPPOSITION to H.B. 637

by the Montana Association of Churches, and personally by George Harper, Helena, delegate to the 1972 Constitutional Convention

We oppose making the provision of assistance and services to those in need an optional rather than a mandated duty of our state legislature.

I state our objection to H.B. 637 this way because that is what the bill says, and all it says.

Instead of having a constitution which says that the legislature "shall provide such

economic and social and rehabilitative services as may be necessary for us...," the constitution as proposed would say that the legislature "may provide" such help,

And when you say "may," the words "may not" are understood by everyone who can read the English language.

What this amendment to the constitution would really say is this: "The legislature may or may not provide aid...

and the second second

The framers of the constitution never questioned the idea of the state's responsibili

for helping its citizens who cannot help themselves. The thought that it might be merely optional never occurred to ys. The constitution of 1889 which we were revising had mandated such aid from the first day Montana became a state. It put the burden of determining and providing such aid on the "several counties," So we did not face the question of whether aid should be provided, but "how and by whom?"

The footnote to section 3 of Article XII of the present constitution says,

"Revises the 1889 constitution (Art. X, Sec. 5) which states that "several counties" must provide welfare. Revision leaves it up to the legislature to determine whether the state, counties, or a combination of the two must provide welfare."

We said in 1972 "let's leave it to the legislature to determine such economic assistance and social and rehabilitative services as may be necessary."

Now this House Bill 637 comes with "WHEREASES" and a "THEREFORE" paragraph that makes it seem that some historical mistake or injustice is now to be rectified. But take a close look at what all the good sounding words are saying:

"WHEREAS, the legislature historically has prescribed the public policy governing the provisions of economic assistance and social and rehabilitative services to those in

need....(you can't argue with that; this has been the case since the beginning)

"WHEREAS, the legislature is the appropriate body of the state government to determin the needs of its residents... (which is exactly what our constitution says)

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE EXHIBIT NO. 2 DATE 3-13-87 BILL NO. 463637

"WHEREAS, the Montana Supreme Court, in a recent decision, determined that the Montana Constitution requires that statutes relating to such assistance and services are reviewable under a hightened scrutiny test...(which is certainly what the constitution intended), and

...then this strange paragraph comes... "WHEREAS, the legislature finds that it is in the public interest to restore to the <u>legislature</u> the power to prescribe the provision of economic assistance and social and rehabilitative services to those in need, subject to review under the rational basis test ....

here the careful reader says "What? The WHEREASES we just read says that the legislature has always had that power. So what is there to be restored?"

But the THEREFORE paragraph says that the legislature wants to "refer the constitutional amendment to the people of the state in order to restore the historical power to set eligibility level criteria for programs and services, as well as for the duration and level of benefits and services relating to economic assistance and social and rehabilitative services."

That is just a bunch of words that imply no change at all...except one. Proof of that is found in the fact that the portion of Article XII which is now to be amended is then included in the bill. Look at it. Not one word is changed until you get to paragraph 3, and there the word "<u>shall</u>" is changed to "may." On the end of the paragraph the words "determined by the legislature to be in need" are added in the effort to give the word "may" its full implication of having "may NOT" understood.

A new paragraph 4 is now added to say essentially what the legislature does at present, except that it makes sure the optional feature is highlighted.

Peel all the language down to is essence, and what does the bill actually propose?

It proposes that the legislature no longer be mandated by the state constitution to see that services are provided. From henceforth, the legislature may or may not ....

The proposed wording on the ballot should honestly read:

\_\_\_FOR allowing the legislature the option of not providing for economic assistance and social services to those in need.

\_\_\_\_AEAINST allowing the legislature the option of not providing for economic assistance and social services to those in need.

That is what you are voting on. It is our hope that you will not abandon the real historical position of the state of Montana as expressed in both its constitutions since its founding in 1889.

One day you and I, by reason of misfortune or accident or sikkness, may need to rely on our fellow citizens for the basic necessities of life itself. For those who now need our aid, there should be absolutely no question as to whether they can expect it in a civilized and humane society.

George Harper George Hanger

March 6, 1987

E HEALTH & WELFARE	
3-13-87	
0 637	

Dear Honorable Members of the Montana Senate,

We the undersigned concerned citizens of Butte Silver Bow, wholeheartedly and sincerely recommend that you, the senators, vote against HB 637 as introduced by Representative Cal Winslow and leave Article 12, Section 3 intact, thus preserving our Constitutional guarantee of assistance to those who by reason of age, infirmity or misfortune need the aid of society.

We are all recipients or providers of human services and realize the necessity for providity basic human needs. We maintain that such basic human needs should never be compromised in a political process, but should be protected above all else to preserve human dignity. Indeed those of us who are in need are often least able to actively engage in the political process, thus a strong Constitutional provision can best secure such economic assistance and social and rehabilitation services as needed. Therefore; repealing our Constitutional Rights to assistance would return us to an age when people lived in fear of hunger, starvation, homelessness, and disease. No family which receives assistance would ever know from legislative session-to-legislative session whether or not their specific needs were in favor, or were to be sacrificed in a political reshuffling of priorities. Whether to feed the hungry and care for the needy should never be a political decision. Montanans have always realized this. This is why we have <u>Constitutionally mandated</u> help for each other.

Temporary budget constraints should not suggest to us that the basic human needs of citizens can be ignored in favor of other wast budget items that are secondary to programs that feed, clothe and shelter people, and maintain and restore mental and physical health. The difficult economic times should constrain those of us fortunate enough to have our health and employment, rather than those of us who are victims of unemployment and poor health. To do otherwise, is cruel and shortsighted.

Article 12, Section 3 is nearly unique among state Constitutions and puts Montana thirty years ahead of our times. Such guaranteed assistance is always limited by the true nature of the need. We categorically deny that Montana can no longer afford to fulfill the vision of our Constitution. Indeed when faced with human suffering, social justice requires us to always alleviate the problem.

So today we urge you to maintain our Constitutional Rights to assistance, when in need, and suggest that this is perhaps the most significant issue this legislature will address. We are available to you for further information at anytime and trust you will carefully consider our thoughts and recommendations.

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE AME - TITLE ADDRESS - ORGANIZATION NO ? DATE 40<u>6</u> Mer Ч MDA \$60 2 0 Z, onne 7 mox 11 1 , nor AM 0 4 A η 2 in N Wit 60 lle ansai 1hm 411 ٩, -

League of Women Voters opposes HB637.

The League supports assistance to meet the basic needs of persons who are unable to work, whose earnings are not sufficient to meet basic needs, or for whom jobs are not available. As taxpayers, we understand the frustration of high welfare costs... the frustration of trying to make state budget ends meet when our economy is so depressed and so many are out of work. We understand your frustration in trying to establish a program to aid those in need at a reasonable cost to taxpayers. But we urge you not to go to the extreme of amending our Constitution as the only way to address those costs.

1karch 13, 1987

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Remember that the Supreme Court found, in declaring our current statute unconstitutional, that it did not agree that the right to welfare is fundamental. It found that the intent behind the Constitutional provision giving all persons the inalienable right to life's basic necessities does not create a substantive right for all the necessities of life to be provided by the public treasury. The court decided there is no consitutional right to welfare, and it is not a right upon which constitutionally guaranteed rights depend. Welfare is a benefit.

However, in addressing the state law adopted last year, the Supreme Court found that the state had failed to show that misfortunate people under the age of 50 are more capable of surviving without assistance than people over the age of 50. These divisions are arbitrary, and our law was declared unconstitutional.

Madame Chairwoman and members of the committee, there are at least 23 bills to amend the Constitution this session. When does it end? When do you decide that we don't have to amendmour state Constitution to solve our problems? You have the ability now to determine benefit levels and funding for optional services. There are proposals to base general assistance on employability, to set up incentive programs to help displaced homemakers and recipients of AFDC find and keep jobs...There's now a proposal by Rep. Winslow to create a special panel to study welfare issues to come up with proposals to tighten up requirements for assistance and reduce possibilities of abuse.

Obvicusly, there are alternatives out there to amending the Constitution. We urge you to consider those alternatives, to understand exactly what your abilities are under the existing Constitution before you amend it in such a drastic way as is being proposed here. This bill does much more than allow the logislature to determine eligibility, duration and level of economic assistance. It amends the Constitution to allow the legislature to decide <u>whether</u> to provide such services, even when the legislature has determined there is a need. We urge you to oppose KB637. Thank you.

SENATE	tan é	WELFARE	
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DATE	13-	82	, <sup>1</sup> .
BILL NO. 4	37	·	•



– Box 1176, Helena, Montana -

JAMES W. MURRY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ZIP CODE 59624 406/442-1708

TESTIMONY OF THE MONTANA STATE AFL-CIO ON HOUSE BILL 637 BEFORE THE SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE, MARCH 13, 1987

Madam Chair, my name is Jack Zink and I am here to testify on behalf of the Montana State AFL-CIO in opposition to House Bill 637. I am presenting the testimony today as Jim Murry has a conflict in scheduling.

First, let me say that the framers of our Montana Constitution, in Article XJI Section 3, made clear Montana's commitment to providing economic assistance and social rehabilitation services for those inhabitants who, by result of age, infirmity or misfortune, may have need for the aid of society.

House Bill 637 proposes to soften that constitutional guarantee. And it does so at a time when a stagnant job market and crumbling economy are worse than they have been since the Great Depression.

Tragically, just two months ago, Montana experienced the 10th highest rate of unemployment in the nation. In human terms, this means that 33,200 Montana men and women are out of work. This figure only indicates the "official" rate of unemployment and does not include those forced to take part-time work because full-time employment is not available.

According to the Montana Department of Labor and Industry, 18,000 new jobs will be created in Montana between 1984 and 1990. This means an average of only 3,000 new jobs per year will be available. The bottom line is that with our current unemployment, we will have 11 people competing for every new job.

Whatever the combination of causes, the stark reality for thousands of Montanans is persistent unemployment and low income and poverty. This unemployment is not a small, temporary problem, which affects only a limited number of Montanans. It is a big, persistent state and national problem with very serious costs and consequences for Montana and the nation.

Unfortunately, the traditional "safety net" protections for jobless workers have been seriously cut and weakened during the last seven years. But numbers will not describe all of the human misery and social costs of unemployment.

When people are unemployed how are they going to put bread on the table? How will they make the mortgage or rent payment? How are they going to pay medical bills for themselves and their spouses and children? These questions bring daily concerns and daily tragedy for many Montanans and their families.



SENATE HURLIH & WILLFARE EXHIBIT UD DATE Marah 13. 1987

House Bill 637

And now, through House Bill 637, you are seeking legislative authority to restrict or reduce general assistance that has historically been the essential life line for those who have fallen through the "safety net."

Madam Chair, passage of this bill would be turning our backs on those who have nowhere else to turn. If we take this action, things will go from bad to worse. We will, in fact, have said to those on general assistance, "We can't be there to help you through the bad times." And in saying that, we will have created a permanent underclass of unemployed in a polarized, two-tier society in Montana.

I submit, Madam Chair, that this would cause every Montanan's moral and economic standard to sink lower and lower.

I ask you again, please give this bill a "do not pass" recommendation. Thank you for your consideration.

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE EXHIBIT NO DATE 3-BILL 10 637

### TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

ON H.B.637: to submit to the electors of Montana an Amendment to Article XII, Sec. 3, to Allow the Legislature Greater Discretion in Providing Economic Assistance and Social and Rehabilitation Services...

I am Judith H. Carlson speaking for the Montana Chapter, National Association of Social Workers, and the Montana Senior Citizens Association, in opposition to HB 637. We've been here before -Representative Winslow in his frustration at seeing the budgets of the Department of Social and Rehabilitation soar. And those of us in opposition saying to look at the people and their needs and their rights.

What motivated the introduction of this amendment - and its passage in the House? It is apparent that the first widespread perception that the Legislature can do nothing to control the costs of "welfare" - primarily general assistance, medicaid, and aid to families with dependent children. And the courts have. on occasion, overturned a piece of legislation drafted to limit and restrict those programs. That fostered further frustration that "nothing we try" will work without this constitutional amendment.

I have the enviable position of representing folks on both sides of the public assistance fence - social workers who provide services and receive payments for professional services; and senior citizens who receive medicaid benefits. From both sides of this fence, I hear: who needs it? We do <u>not</u> need this change to our constituion.

It is clear to me that the department and the legislature do <u>now</u> have the authority and ability to <u>control</u> rising costs. Two examples: the original motivator for this amendment, General Assistance, has been brought under control this past year. That caseload has stabilized. When the court said SRS could not put into effect a law to restrict benefits to the able-bodied aged under 35, the department and the legislature figured out

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another way to attack the problem - a much more humane way of offering real assistance to meet the real problems of people. It seems to be working.

Another example: several years ago it appeared that nursing home costs were "out of control." As I look at the figures for SRS now, those costs appear to have stabilized due to an effective rate setting system and the use of the "medicaidwaiver" program whereby the elderly and disabled are helped to obtain services in their own homes rather than having to go to a nursing home when it is not absolutely medically necessary.

Thus, SRS and the legislature can control costs without this amendment.

Some costs are going to rise due to economic factors - some perhaps within our control and some not. The Montana Constitution should not be tampered with because the Arab nations have lowered the price of their oil; or because our policies for agriculture have gone awry for a variety of reasons, some including foreign policy; nor because we have a lower inflation rate than expected and thus the interest money coming to state coffers has declined. Do we want outside factors like that to control what we think is best for our people? We need to look at our budget realistically - as I think this legislature is doing. We come up with a realistic budget - both revenue and expenditures. We don't change the Constitution.

The public has always complained about "welfare costs" even in the Depression and on up to the present day. I do not hear more complaints from the general public now. People always want welfare to go to those who need it. Don't we all? Sometimes one person's "need" appears to be another person's "want.'

I wish we could have a lengthy conversation and trade ideas on this subject in more depth. But for now, I urge you to vote NO on HB 637.

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SENATE MUNLIN EXHIBIT NO DATE BILL NO ..

The big spender in SRS is the medicaid program. This is a marvelous program that has been a life-saver (literally) for many Montanans. Did you know that the older citizens of our country are paying more out-of-pocket for medical care now than they did before passage of the medicare legislation in the early 70's? Health care costs have escalated far above the regular inflation rates. And even though SRS has not been paying the going rate for most providers of health care, they have had to respond to some of that dramatic increase in health care costs. This is reflected in the medicaid budget.

-3-

In order to save General Fund monies, we in Montana have done a good job of using the medicaid program to pay for programs that otherwise would have been General Fund - for example, our state institutions could have been full of people who are now in the community and being cared for by use of medicaid dollars.

I'm talking about this budget to let you know that some of the increases in the SRS budget have come about because of wise overall use of the state General Fund. And the big increases in programs have been those that benefit the poor and the elderly but they also put lots of money into the pockets of all who work in hospitals, doctors offices, mental health centers, and the rest of our health care system.

WITNESS STATEMENT	EXHIBIT NO 2 DATE 3-17.87 BILL NO 36.7
NAME PAMELA MARSHALL	BILL NO. 637
ADDRESS <u>1240 Butte Avenue</u> Helena, MT	DATE March 13, 38
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT? Montana People's Action	-
SUPPORT OPPOSE we oppose	AMEND
PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.	

SENAID HEALTH & WLLFARE

Comments:

Good afternoon. I'm Pam Marshall and I'm speaking as a representative of Montana People's Action. I thank you for the opportunity to express my disaproval of House Bill 637 which has been sponsored by Representative Winslow. This bill opens the doors for many potential cuts and on those grounds I oppose it. As a resident of Montana for 25 years now making my home in Helena, I have seen the increased concern arising around the topic of public assistance programs. Though I can see the urgency of the needed budget remedies. I can also see the catastrophies and misfortunes of the future. By reducing the funds available for public assistance you are seeking short term goals without much regard for long term results. I am a single mother with two children subsisting on AFDC funds, living in subsidised housing while attending Carroll College. This bill threatens the opportunities and hopes I see for my future as well as the future of my children. Many of the funds potentially cut by this bill would affect not only the funds we use on a day-to-day basis to exist but also Voc-Rehab funds I utilize to cover college expenses. In an industrial and technological society it is necessary to have a college education, Aiding me to receive college education now will remove me from public assistance programs permanently. Allowing me to create a healthy and productive environment for my children encourages them to strive for freedom apart from any public assistance. In the end I will return far more than I have ever received, hopefully helping those who like myself wish not only to separate themselves from the stigma attached to public assistance programs but also from the stigma associated with a lack of education. Furthermore I believe that this legislative body has far too many responsibilities now without compiling their load. Also, though I contend that this body holds an enormous amount of expertise in several areas, the need for specific training in the area of public assistance is immeasurable. And finally, this body is even further removed from the immediate needs \of the people than the institutions who currently regulate these programs. To know the needs of the people you need to see the needs of the people first hand. I strongly urge you to vote against HB 637. Thank you.



## CLERGY AND LAITY CONCERN

P. O. Box 933 443-0843

Helena, Montana 59624 442-5086

March 13,1987 Helena CALC Testimony Concerning HB637: Do Not Pass This Bill

RHANDI RACHLIS My name is Marge Cooper and I am representing Helena Clergy and Laity Concerned, bringing to you the recommendation of our Economic Justice Committee:

> As an interfaith community of persons from a variety of religious traditions who care about the protection of human rights and the promotion of economic justice, Helena Clergy and Laity Concerned strongly opposes House Bill 637. We urge you to defeat this bill in this committee and to strongly recommend to the Senate that this bill NOT be passed.

Helena Clergy and Laity Concerned opposes this bill because it is a profound step backwards in our state's sacred, public commitment, now contained in our Constitution, to a recognition that low-income persons and others hit hard by adversity have a guaranteed human right to assistance from our government.

The state's need to provide for social and economic justice for the poor and the unfortunate is not an option--it is a moral imperative-- and our Constitution should not be changed in this regard. We should be living up to this commitment, not breaking a commitment rightly enshrined in our Constitution.

Rather than cutting back on our commitments to the poor by passing HB 637, we need to heed the words of the prophet Isaiah, who spoke out in his time against efforts to forget the rights of the poor, as he said:

> Woe to the legislators of infamous laws, tyrannical decrees, who refuse justice to the unfortunate and cheat the poor among my people of their rights, who make widows their prey and rob the orphan.

> > HELENA CALC:



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People of Faith Working Together For Peace And

JEN. JE HEALTH & WELFARF EXHIBIT NO DATE 3-13-83 BILL NO 3/2

2m, adith Corpenter, with anaconda Concerned Citizens. We oppose HB637. Our fore fathers wrote the sutble reminder into the original constitution for Montana to aid those of This state to who are in need. Where are approximately 90 people on G.A. in Anaconda as well as others who are needy because of the economic times. linacon da Had one basic industry and when it closed in 1980 many people rad to ask for kelp from the state. The Just majority of these people would rather have jobs than depend upon aid but in these times the jobs are not wailable. By hanging the constitution are we telling people we no longer need to care for those who for many reasons are asking for support to keep going, We are asking you not to support HB 637. as one the people from our area who signed these petitions -

PETITION TO THE MONTANA LEGISLATURE

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We	e, the undersigned c	itizens of Montana, are opposed to	o any amendment
-		ON 3 of the MONTANA CONSTITUTION w	which reads
	The legislature sh	all provide such economic assista	nce aSENATE HEALTH & WELFARE
	social and rehabil those inhabitants	itative services as may be necessi who, by reason of age, infirmitie re need for the aid of society.	ary fexalBit NO. 22
	misfortune may hav	e need for the aid of society.	DATE 3 12-27
T	his provision create	s a constitutional right to welfa	re benefits. Ary
a	mendment to reduce t	that right and to increase the leg	islature's power
t	o limit welfare bene	efits is against the interests of	the citizens of
M	ontana.		
N	AME	ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
	om Roy	541 EVANS Ms/2.	59801
-	Joannie K Rixon	1274 Mc Mannamy Dr. Kalispe	ll 59901.
ł	Trailer Horane	3028 Queen Musula MT	59801
	Robert J. alexin	2710 Multurny LAN MISKE	59801
	premp M Clink	3916 Timberlone Mil	1 599:02
-	Lichard OSlugo	304 Kensinda Mas	ly 59801
	Jon WB entreh	~ 1600 arthur Mrse	a 57501
	Mary Brich	10300 Butly Cuck	Mala 59.807
	Vera Deusa	n 3613 (reaker word Rd	Msla 59802
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530 NORTH EWING HELENA MONTANA 442-5825 59601

WATE LIGHT & WELFARE

EXHIBIT NO 13

DATE

BILL NO.

March 13, 1987

THE SENATE COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY:

I am Rev.Mr. Tony Duvernay, and I represent the Cathedral of St. Helena. I am a permenent deacon on the Cathedral Staff and I work closely with people in need in our local parish and in the Helena Community as well.

We at the Cathedral, urge you to vote "no" on H.B.637. If this was a bill that would assure greater assistance for the "needy" of our State, we would overwhelmingly support the legislation. However, this is not the case and we fear for all those who now and in the future, may have need for aid from our Society.

We do believe that we are justified in our fear. The fear that if this legislation is passed, the result will be that those people in need, the poor, the unemployed, the aged, the infirmed, would have less assistance than is presently provided. Anyone who has any experience in assisting the "needy" are painfully aware that the present level of public assistance is minimum indeed.

We therefore, urge you to vote "no" on H.B. 637.



CHAIRMAN ECK AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE:

I am John Ortwein representing the Montana Catholic Conference.

The Catholic Church's concern for human life and human dignity are the reasons I appear before you today. Striving to fulfill these concerns is the duty of the whole of society of which government is a part. Indeed, we must not lose sight of the fact that elected government's business is the instrument of our common concerns.

In the recently released U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on the Economy, the following is stated: Society acting as a whole, acting through public and private institutions, has the moral responsibility to enhance human dignity and protect human rights.

Government has an essential responsibility in this area. It has a positive moral responsibility in safeguarding human rights and ensuring that the minimum conditions of human dignity are met for all.

It would seem to us that the drafters of the Montana Constitution had this vision when they wrote, "The legislature shall provide economic assistance and social and rehabilitative services as may be necessary for those inhabitants who, by reason of age, infirmities, or misfortune may have the need for the aid of society." We would hate to see this very clear message changed.

Please vote "no" on House Bill 637.





#### PETITION TO THE MONTANA LEGISLATURE

SENATE HEALTH & WELFA

EXHIBIT NO. 15

DATE 3-13-87 We, the undersigned citizens of Montana, are opposed to any amendmen to ARTICLE XII, SECTION 3 of the MONTANA CONSTITUTION which reads.... The legislature shall provide such economic assistance and social and rehabilitative services as may be necessary for those inhabitants who, by reason of age, infirmities, or misfortune may have need for the aid of society. This provision creates a constitutional right to welfare benefits. Any amendment to reduce that right and to increase the legislature's power to limit welfare benefits is against the interests of the citizens of Montana. ADDRESS ZIP CODE NAME Or and a plat Gr. Aue Apt 3Ale Bozeman 5-9714 802 M. 802 N. Shand # 3HIU 3021, brand Bozeman JA17 bara Hartman Bon oran. 3A11 1000 802 M ns 11/12 0 NAA 1000-802 597/ś IV Grage Corani Witchard RUZN Grand 597 BCF 249 Boz-59715 S 202 3BID UCRS N. CRaind acy Bozeman 54713 20 2110 Bozeman 597 1501S. Black 40 Hitching Post Rd Bozema ( m

EXHIBIT OF DATE 3-13-87 BILL NO. 36.7 Madam Chan and members of the Committee My name is Haren andersen and I am first of all, the mother of three children. and & am also a member of Bitte Community Union and the current Chair of the Montaxa Low Ancome Coalition

I would like to mention the people. <u>all the people</u> back home in <u>ALL</u> our communities who because of lack of transportation or other reasons could not be here today.

I would also like to say that many low-income people find it extremely hard to deal on a one to one bads with their Et's back home. The thought of appearing before a body as powerful as yourselves is completely out of the question. These scople oppose HB#63 even if they do not roice this positions y ask that you please remember people - ALL people and their basic needs, and rote against Howe Bill # 637.

Thank you -Haren & and we 120 So. Dakota Butte, M+ 59701

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE

enore F. Taliaterro DATE: NAME: 1 ADDRESS: 0 6807 PHONE : s Cent REPRESENTING WHOM? Victims of spouse abuse riend APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HA DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? **OPPOSE?** he problem is not with the constitution COMMENTS: is imperatives that the rights of all be protected & that equal protection be provide the constitution not who already have resource hase persons yout Dignity is a basic right for all <u>citizens</u> he problem is not a welfare problem societal problem. It is not an e empl health care prob 10 a em, cmelo positions for temp porter ected by this amen ASE LEAVE ANY STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRE Those least able to vote will or may the polls

NAME: DEROY Reiluran DATE: 3/13/87
ADDRESS: 337 Roct Form 50, Billings 59105
PHONE: 259-2030
REPRESENTING WHOM? 1117. ASSO. SUMMOR CITIZENS
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 637
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?
COMMENTS: Our Constitution is OK - Itwas passed by us. It has worked Fine - why Change Now
How Can we afford the Cost 16 chonge for Boutidetion
We need to Keep the Stability in Constitution
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these that make it can certainly the lass fortunate
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PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY. ince for inning of our state our conditution back servere us well three plances, recessions and depression, why change new. Way threw out for baby with the bath water
NAME: Child lene De meroll DATE: 3-13-8 ADDRESS: 398 Mondaer Curcle 210. Billin PHONE: 252-0392 REPRESENTING WHOM? MSCH - MLTC APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 113637 DO YOU: SUPPORT? \_\_\_\_\_ AMEND? \_\_\_\_\_ OPPOSE? COMMENTS: Mandan Jenar itimens the <u>HB 63</u> 7241 Propaned Lait Ben the Leich to cumanating the proveded and rudking There no a worke all their war the coladich. Fina seriors the living enthe powerta lanel La bar Cy chart mendled is in a man To their a la seleen, and centerre. Limity

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Kila Laedeke DATE: March 13-1987 Billing ADDRESS: 324 PHONE: 23 REPRESENTING WHOM? Jonanne APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 10.37 AMEND? DO YOU: SUPPORT? OPPOSE? COMMENTS: A concer Bill 537 fecance all people wh depend on The auce of they de le si st nef. Lads Ull will le in Nhin meante thit ald interned The ellian chely. institute 2 as Am hour to M legue money ouse to l'a siste  $\hat{U}$ Cho CA 01 sure hour te raise 11 2-7-1 10 Ant out on -SE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

Ma Chainman : Member of the Committee: My hame is filme Byel and it amane A VDC. Recipient who lives in breat Talla, Counde County, Montana Il oppose HB 637 Because if The ligistlature received the right To determine who is and who' esit in need of according an instance and Rehabilitation Services, then we the people are giving up our right to govern the government. els.it not the in Constitutional Right To have the liquetilation work for the people? not have the liqueture and sole what to do! It beens to me that Our Forefaties set up the Constitution for the people & joren chanceling Not have a bunch of money Crabbing Buy wigo who know here to manipulate the laws try to tell us what to de I cannot see any busht future for our state if whe are not willing to help our own people

NAME - TITLE ADDRESS - ORGANIZATION Satte lat. come Longfor Employments Itaining Counselor Box 285 North american alle -Dough Longhar 908 Emma Batte Mt 820 / S. Colorado Butte, 11: a lan D'M atte cell in non 504 SBH Butte Juine Moun 209 N. main Butte Pichand 91. House 709 N. Main Batte WIT. 620 N. Henset But mt. Cetter Dumont, And I father 25. E. GrANite#5 Butte 14T. 2326 Princeton Butto Mt. Patty Borges 905 EMMA BUTTE M+ 1930 Elizabeth Spring Sutto ynt. Bill Patterson\_ 211/2 w. Pork Butte MUT. posephine Brown 539 W. Park Butte Mt 647 5. Idaho Butte Mt. Kevin Baher Bie Bruce 436 24 Parp Butte nite P.O. Box 3613. Butte, Mont. Willie JoHNSON 1460 Holmes Ane Butte Ment. los Tobiurss Stone Pistia. 25 F. Grande Butte, Mont. Sim Undell SOI W GRANITE BUTTÉ, MT. Butte, Mi+ abith Babiel 6.26 E NO 12 Barbora Calton P.0. #3573 Butte, mt. Alelaren tinher 1957- Stuart Butternt. Bitte Mt Fref W Mahlank 3445 Kennedy 110 to Forcetson# 2 Kutte Mt. Linda 11 Jainel 130 Elijahith Chines Butte Mt. Osmes Bamberlin Butte, MIT. allen Alathur 320 Excelence Andy Sterger 2636 Haral Blod Butte net Jin Gortez 172 5 meadourlask Butto Int. Tim Reamey 119 No. Idaho, Butte Mt.

We, the undersigned citizens of Montana, are opposed to any amendment to ARTICLE XII, SECTION 3 of the MONTANA CONSTITUTION which reads.. The legislature shall provide such economic assistance and social and rehabilitative services as may be necessary for those inhabitants who, by reason of age, infirmities, or misfortune may have need for the aid of society. This provision creates a constitutional right to welfare benefits. Any amendment to reduce that right and to increase the legislature's power to limit welfare benefits is against the interests of the citizens of Montana. ADDRESS ZIP CODE NAMÉ St. . . P. Rutte 1757-2210 6 11 6 1 dano Butte illung M BUTTE MRIN eler Bow Ho 151 220 St Sherinana 59803 ristmon 3 5 Ate Monto. 2

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NAME	ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
Jay Jones	1026 Hemlock	59101
Sundeel mistock	2007 S. Blog. Blod. #11	59101
Maria Nolliday	2915 Shri AUCSA + 8	59101
Decana Callins	1113 Poly for	59102
Failue Cole	6.24 5. 33 ml	59101
Naney Bapta	4014 Hardin Rd	54101
- Pecky Supp	1219 Concerd Nr.	59101
Atrity Dilcar	HOIT SO BLYS ISKUD	54101
Derri wyatt	1301 Industrial Ave:	#79
merry Richmand	1261 Harderoch	59105
anne Vanis	2206 Patricia	59102
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Monica Patt	Tenso 117 50 34	59/01
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Treas M. S. Amich Terch	ere 332 Louis the 111	59101
Un & Rarson	915 ane E -	59102
Huguette Hun	Tin 2926 Jun live	59102
William B. Blar	Le 130/ Agadustria (1	line -59/0/
Charles Worren C	Drey, 1205 Male line.	59102
Jauise a. Roan	10 2915 Runing Vinci	59102
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Rickler	11 CARRIELYNN DR. B	1111NGS, 59102
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Adell Henman	7185031	
Dan Schiens	4519 Regan Bligs :	59101
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Richard Wick	1131N. 27th Billings	59101

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NAME	ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
Mandreld	725 Chestric	59711
Sharm Rickett	11 4/0002	59711
Sandra Snort	229 Centar Park	59711
Inomicis & Jones	Ston Brecaria	naconda
The sal	84 is 75 Auenda	5770
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Canss D. Canklell	1101 Heather Dringe	59711
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Robert Ricketto	3026 Cable Rd,	,
Janie Rozars	101 Ledar Ro	rk Homes 547
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PETITION TO THE MONTANA	LEGISLATURE	
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NAME	ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
Fine Seniala	306 Mit Hargin H	mil Szill
Robert R. Ringtt.	622 Walnut V	R norcodes 9711
Leorge Honzalis	306 MIL Alaqua	Hms 59711
Literay Janbara	CHARL. HODON HE	Min 5971 mp
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NAME Name Name San Straight		1. Mont
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This legislative tactic is an attempt to eliminate benefits and programs to disabled, elderly, and those unfortunates in need!

NAME	ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
Mrs. Francis Wagner	903 Hady Vivo	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
annie Burnes	103 Hadys Mines 172.4 Kalmes"/ Msta	6.KT. 59802
Buyown h. Concerd	908 Limmi 6t Mola	59801
Marcia May	4704 Ambrose Msly	59862
Brian P. Fuls	524 DIxor Mola	59801
Livise Almgren	1420 Jackson, Mala	59802
White With	OUT W Aware	59802
Dee Day	1800 5 4 1 W # 9	59801
THOMAS (RAWFORD	435 BURLINGTON	59801
Sinda Mendel	· 1515 Ashizirry	5980/
Anden Hellengeland	101 Small Love, Missuila	59801
Philip Whilebund	gooluhitaker, Missurla	59803
Hung Ragelman	Bei S. 5 Twills(4	59801
Dand Dreagrifly	837 Ophin C+ Ms/s, M+	59801
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Montana.		
NAME	ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
Marquerite Boerner	314 aldurson	59101
Windred 2 street	314 alderan	59101
Helen m. Comb	825 aug. D-#210	59102
Pring Print	225 mar D. the Mark	59102
Caroline Kelle	~ 4521 Phillip	59101
Edward Filler	4521 Phill	ips 59101
Delen Schmitt	832au 10 # 3.	27 59102
Mrs Robert Q. morin	28110-8Th. ane. So	2. 59101
Betty Briceno	2913-Sit Que. So	59101
R& Bowlason	#4 Serina Que.	59101
Alfring Takick	= o Them Creek Dr	59102
Saul Tatuck		
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to limit welfare benefits is	against the interests of the	citizens of
Montana.		
NAME	ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
Mary Hilliams	1310 Yellowstone #5	59102
Junic & Williams	1310 Vellowstme#3-	54102
Juart m. Williams	1522 Coah	59102
Frieda Tapel	1107 alderson	59102
Eva R. Grapp	3183 Viala Lane	59102
Rudetph Broph	3183 Place In	59102
7- Tean Furth	710 N. 1876. SI-	59101
Grace T- Zurrh	71071-180h St.	59101
Margaret Houchett	1316114 W	59101
Mary L. Black	1301 Industrial are a	
Fullian B Black	1361 Suchers brig line	
Kathaja Putram	813 Grand	59102
Bitty June Strebland	<b>^</b>	
Robert F. Wilson	117 Alderson AV.	
-Doris Wilson	16	V
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- Delva Ember	11 1714 ave 1.	(,
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The legislature shall provide such economic assistance and social and rehabilitative services as may be necessary for those inhabitants who, by reason of age, infirmities, or misfortune may have need for the aid of society.

This provision creates a constitutional right to welfare benefits. Any amendment to reduce that right and to increase the legislature's power to limit welfare benefits is against the interests of the citizens of Montana.

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SEi. - 48F EXHIBAL AND PETITION TO THE MONTANA LEGISLATURE 3 DATE We, the undersigned citizens of Montana, are opposed to a BHL Mandmen to ARTICLE XII, SECTION 3 of the MONTANA CONSTITUTION which reads.... The legislature shall provide such economic assistance and social and rehabilitative services as may be necessary for those inhabitants who, by reason of age, infirmities, or misfortune may have need for the aid of society. This provision creates a constitutional right to welfare benefits. Any amendment to reduce that right and to increase the legislature's power to limit welfare benefits is against the interests of the citizens of Montana. NAME ADDRESS ZIP CODE U. 59102 205 and 9107 3 5 910 5 EILUIA '/

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Montana.		
NAME	ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
June m. Craco-	916 N'23 #3 Dillem	59101
Sonhie B. Vande Velan	te-2823-6th. Au. M. J. Bill	lina) - 59/01
ilan, Frence		St. Billing
Dara Paras	927 Rueffe D	Billion Mont
Freder Schulenber	of 1616 maurine "	Billings
Marvin Haught	+ 825 ave D	17
Elmir Petersen	111 nuch 23 apt	5 Billing
blowthy & Malshin	y 1122 Darathy L	
Kennett E Malshut	y 1122 Dowthy For	~/
Jack Coleman		_
Jane X Stagner		1
John Arinstein		
Elie Byorna		<i>b</i>
Jestie 11		
Fred Jackson	v 424 fo-37th	Blgs. 59101
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P. nori	107 Dulant	Luch

Please return to: Montana Low Income Coalition P.O. Box 1029 Helena MT 59624

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to limit welfare benef Montana.	its is against the interests	of the citizens of
NAME	ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
	ADDRESS	
Steve Zuchen	106 111th st 50	59401
Augusticia 40	1 5 Low M. S. F. Fields	5940 /
Ray LaProque 91	3 2nd ave, no, # 6. Gt.	Falls 59401
Welun Mana	Balduege 505 5 TH 14	UE SUD GT. F. 57
Jouris Coluverd	7 306 53 ST SC	727 5394
Jerry nage	1 402 5 3 mcl avers	727-6388
TimVorda	216 2nd aven	761-9225
THAD SIEGER 3	1615 CENTRAL #27	59401
Kenny Mulford	316/2 Central are #26	59401
Hich Lepuck	617 Lave 5 #19	59401
V	Dal-andAue	59401
Mark Jalier 1	326 7th aven-	59404
	14/2 ± 7 +V/	59401
Joria Hearn	P.D. Box 78 Black Ea	ale 59414
amete Bertane	P.D. Box 78 Black Eag 11 1027 4th OLEND.	5947 -
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NAME	ADDRESS	- ZIP CODE
alturke 217	9 Rimini Rd. Helena	MT. 59601
Helber Johnson 3/	43rd St M #169 Street	Talls 59401
Marie Schieber	1508 15t Wast Hill Dr. Grea	HFalls 59404
21. M.h.	Boy 313 BEET	MT. 59412
Collin Thismpson	By 376 Belt,	MT. 54412
allen Brito	9124th The S. JAD	A Falls, Mt
Karbana mdersin	1513 1st du. N17, 1	<u>at 59401</u>
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CONCERNED CITIZEN'S COALITION P.O.BOX 2289 GREAT FALLS, MT 50403 (406) 761-0310 E×t. 25 PAGE \_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ACTIVITY: \_\_\_\_ ADDRESS OF ACTIVITY: \_\_\_\_ NAME : ADDRESS: PHONE NO.: 1270070B andord on 426-15 we STA 75 787-3483 3/4 320 St n #109 nona Willows Bela 2-77-367 04 3H6 570 Voivanach Box 376 <u>But 277-3557</u> But 277-3539 marson 277-3539 Beet 2-7-7956

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