

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF MONTANA

BRIAN SCHWEITZER
GOVERNOR



JOHN BOHLINGER
LT. GOVERNOR

May 12, 2011

The Honorable Linda McCulloch
Secretary of State
State Capitol
Helena MT 59620

Dear Secretary McCulloch:

By the power vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and the Laws of the State of Montana, I hereby veto House Bill 492, entitled "**AN ACT PROHIBITING LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES FROM ENACTING, ADOPTING, IMPLEMENTING, ENFORCING, OR REFERRING TO THE ELECTORATE IMMIGRATION SANCTUARY POLICIES; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; ALLOWING FOR THE WITHHOLDING OF FUNDS TO LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES THAT DO NOT COMPLY; AMENDING SECTION 7-1-111, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.**"

As the title states, House Bill 492 makes it a crime for a local government to "adopt, implement, or enforce an immigration sanctuary". However, the sponsors of this legislation never pointed to a single incident in which a local government in Montana created, attempted to create, or showed any interest in creating an immigration sanctuary. The legislature should not, therefore, concern itself with frivolous matters, such as remedying problems that do not exist.

Sincerely,


Brian Schweitzer
GOVERNOR

Cc: Legislative Services Division