EXHIBIT 10
DATE 1/23/07
HB Public Comment / Ed

AssociatedStudents
MONTANA TECH OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

Get Into It!

Esteemed Council Members:

I am writing this testimonial to express my support of the CAP initiative.

My name is Curtis Scott Andersen and I am in my senior year at Montana Tech studying Mechanical Engineering. My tenure at Montana Tech has been challenging, immensely rewarding, and financially troubling. I am a student who relies heavily on financial aid, primarily composed of student loans, and jobs that I must maintain during the summer and while attending class.

Though I was an honor student, all-conference athlete in two sports and active in the community in high school, I still found it very difficult to obtain scholarships for college. The son of a single parent who struggles to make ends meet with income in the poverty range, I cannot ask or expect my father to pay for my education. This posed an obstacle for me once I gained admission.

My situation is not uncommon among my peers at Montana Tech and I, like many other students rely on internships and semester jobs to pay for school and housing. Semester jobs can make school quite challenging by taking time for study away, employers also often struggle to schedule work around school leading to missed class and often lower grades. The introduction of the CAP initiative would greatly alleviate the stress and financial hardship of students like myself determined to succeed but threatened by ever increasing tuition and fee costs.

I am very grateful for your time and consideration on this issue and hope that together we can work to better the future of many young Montanans.

Sincerely

Curtis S. Andersen
Senator Montana Tech ASMT