A. BRIEF OVERVIEW OF AGENCY SETTING
In 1998, the ACLU of Montana, the Montana Catholic Conference, Murder Victims’ Families for Reconciliation, Montana Human Rights Network, and the Montana Association of Churches came together to form the Montana Abolition Coalition. In 1999, we sponsored 5 bills to limit or abolish the death penalty. Because of our efforts, a bill was passed to abolish the death penalty for people under the age of 18.

In 2007, 2009 and 2011, the bill to abolish the death penalty and replace it with life without the possibility of parole was passed with bipartisan support in the Senate. Scores of Montanans voiced their support for abolition, and lawmakers responded. The Coalition will continue to keep the issue before the legislature and the public, because Montanans want common sense policies that hold criminals accountable, provide healing for victims, and are fiscally responsible. The death penalty is none of these.

B. DESCRIPTION OF CLIENT GROUP
The Montana Abolition Coalition continues to outreach to a wide array of diverse communities including but not limited to: family members of murder victims, Native Americans, law enforcement, and every denomination within the faith community. We work with law makers and community leaders across the political spectrum and our activities and efforts span the width and breadth of the state. We have organized active chapters in Missoula, Kalispell, Helena, Bozeman, Great Falls and Billings. Our work over the next year will include intensive supporter outreach in Billings, education within church organizations, and continuing to grow existing chapters and supporter networks through small group presentations, regular tabling at community events and on campus, and by working through current members personal networks.

C. LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
During the internship the Student will be working with and reporting directly to the Organizing Coordinator, and will have the opportunity to learn from his 8 years experience of working in politics. The Student will learn basic organizing principles and techniques including outreach, membership fundraising, and mobilization that can be applied to any political campaign or social change scenario. They will be primarily responsible for advertising and marketing of public events, and increasing public participation in chapter meetings and other activities. They will assist the organizer and core volunteers in outreach to the general public. They will also be responsible for educating the campus community about the issue and for recruiting student volunteers.
Students may expect to gain:
- Experience in meeting preparation and facilitation
- Experience in small group presentations and public speaking
- Experience in one-on-one civic engagement
- Experience in recruiting and managing volunteers
- Experience in event planning
- Ability to research legislative actions and decision makers
- Ability to set measurable and attainable goals
- Ability to hold effective one-on-one and group meetings

D. EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS
The student will be expected to approach their work with a willingness to learn and to push themselves to improve their abilities. They will be expected to work with other interns and staff to plan and execute outreach activities. They must be willing to offer and accept constructive criticism. They must be able to manage their time effectively, balance multiple projects, and plan their week accordingly. Finally, they must have a passion for social justice and be able to express that passion to others.

The student will be required to create a weekly work plan, and meet with the intern team and Organizing Coordinator on a regular basis.