AUSTIN KNUDSEN



STATE OF MONTANA

January 3, 2025

Submitted Via Electronic Filing & U.S. Mail

Scott S. Harris Clerk, Supreme Court of the United States One First Street, NE Washington, DC 20543

Re: William Trevor Case v. State of Montana, No. 24-624

Dear Mr. Harris:

Under Supreme Court Rule 30.4, Respondent State of Montana respectfully requests a 30-day extension of time to file a brief in opposition to Petitioner's petition for a writ of certiorari, up to and including March 5, 2025. Petitioner's counsel does not object to this request. Respondent requests an extension for the following two reasons.

First, an extension of time is necessary in light of the Montana Department of Justice's other obligations. For example, before the existing deadline or soon thereafter, counsel is filing a petition for writ of certiorari in *Planned Parenthood of Mont.* v. *Montana*, DA 23-00272 (Mont.), and preparing for a preliminary pretrial conference, including the preparation of a joint discovery plan and preliminary pretrial statement, in *Free Speech Coalition, Inc., et al.*, v. *Knudsen*, No. 9:24-cv-00067-DWM (D. Mont.). Counsel also has multiple travel plans that will further impair his ability to research and draft a brief in opposition.

Second, the requested extension will not prejudice the petitioner, who sought and obtained a similar extension of time to file his petition for a writ of certiorari. Rather, the extension will enable Respondent to prepare a brief that fully and concisely responds to the issues raised in the petition.

For these reasons, Respondent requests that the Clerk grant a 30-day extension of time, up to and including March 5, 2025, to file a brief in opposition to the petition for certiorari.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Respectfully Submitted,

Peter M. Torstensen, Jr. Counsel of Record for Respondent

cc: Fred A. Rowley, Jr. (Counsel of Record for Petitioner)