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)