

EXHIBIT 8
DATE 3-16-05
HB HB 755

MISSOULA COUNTY COMMENTS ON HB 775

HOUSE COMMITTEE HEARING

March 16, 2005

Missoula County expends approximately \$1.5 million in on-going 911 expenses annually. Of that, \$300,000 is supported by the existing 911 and Enhanced 911 surcharges. The remaining \$1.2 million is supported by Missoula County General Fund dollars.

Adding wireless enhanced 911 service will result in a non-recurring cost of about \$8,500 and annual recurring costs of about \$13,750 per year for Missoula County. While those are not overwhelming additional costs, they still add to the burden already supported by the Missoula County taxpayers. Missoula County supports HB 775 because it would provide an additional opportunity to be reimbursed for some of these additional costs.

While there may be mechanical objections to this bill, we hope the Committee will support it, and allow those issues to be worked out as the bill goes through the remainder of the legislative process.