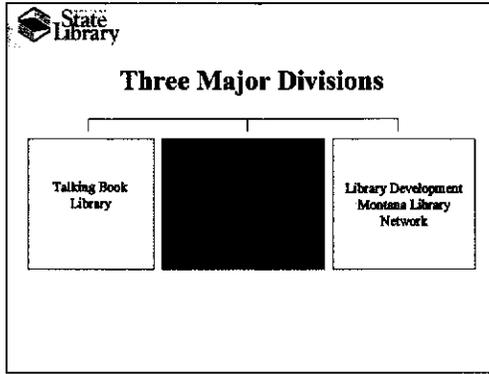
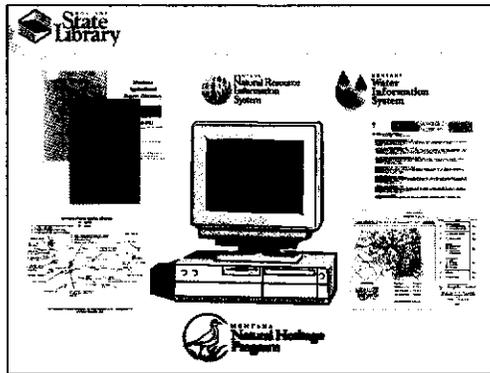


EXHIBIT 6
DATE 1/10/2005
HB _____



Now I will mention the Digital Library, which incorporates Library Information Services, our Natural Resource Information System and our Natural Heritage Program.



The Digital Library provides state employees and officials with the information they need to perform their work and provides business owners and other Montanans with one-stop access to government-generated information. This division also serves as a back-up reference resource to all Montana Libraries.



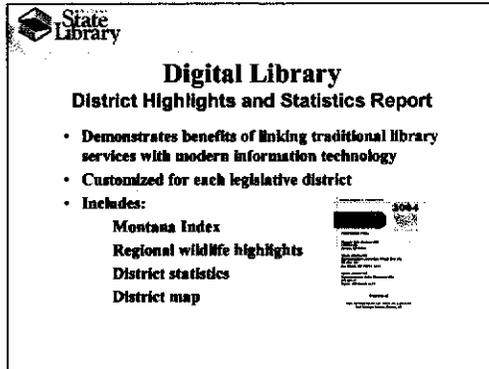
Digital Library

- Specialized library dealing with unique aspects of government information – publications and databases
- Joins resources of four statutory programs:
 - ✓ Natural Resource Information System
 - ✓ Natural Heritage Program
 - ✓ Water Information System
 - ✓ State Publications Center

The Digital Library is a very specialized library dealing with government information which is being transformed by the digital revolution. Our library develops on-demand, electronic mapping technologies to help users find information about natural resources and related fields. Our most heavily used information resources are in electronic format since many of these resources are not published in print. Much of the data held within the digital library is mined on a routine basis from state agency databases.

The Digital Library Division joins the resources of four statutory programs:

- *The Natural Resource Information System* - or NRIS as it is commonly known - provides comprehensive access to information about Montana's natural resources.
- *The Natural Heritage Program* is the state's source for information on the status and distribution of our native animals and plants.
- *The Water Information System* provides a starting point for access information concerning Montana's water resources.
- *The State Publications Center* maintains a collection of state agency publications.



You are each provided an informational brochure titled "District Highlights and Statistics" which contains Montana-related statistics as well as information specific to your particular Senate district or the Senate district in which your House district is located.

These are being distributed to all legislators today.

This booklet is a product created by our Digital Library Division and demonstrates the benefits of linking traditional library research services with modern information technology. I'll use this information packet to discuss each of the programs in the Digital Library.

The booklet I'll show you today relates to your Presiding Officer's district. Each packet is uniquely customized to a particular Senate District so they are not identical – similar in form, but not identical in content.