

EXHIBIT 6
DATE 3.23.05
HB 793

HB 793 Testimony

DEQ is providing informational testimony only

Bill would provide grants for recycling and create a commission to oversee the grants.

Montana recycles 15% of its solid waste. This is low in comparison to the national average of which is at a 32% rate (EPA)

DEQ has recently spearheaded a process to update the Integrated Waste Management Plan. Among other things, this plan identifies barriers to recycling and makes recommendations about how to increase recycling. It was put together by a task force of interested parties and went through 3 public hearings. One of the recommendations in the plan is to expand recycling through additional funding opportunities, like this grant program.

The types of projects that were discussed as needing funding include
Sharing of equipment like the mobile glass pulverizer
Household hazardous waste collection events
Electronics recycling community events
These community events are expensive, typically costing \$30,000 or more to operate. Currently communities must come up with the funds themselves for these types of events.