

EXHIBIT 2
DATE 4.6.05
SB 345

MEDA

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Montana Economic Developers Association

April 4, 2005

Dear Vice Chairmen Lake and Branae and members of the House Taxation Committee:

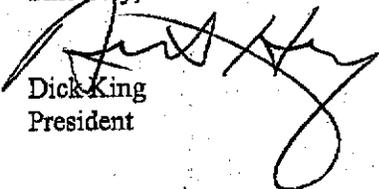
The Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA) is an organization of more than 200 individuals and professionals engaged in economic development activities throughout Montana. Members come from the for-profit and non-profit sides of the private sector as well as the public sector. They work for entities at all levels—local, state, national and international. MEDA members are committed to expanding economic opportunity in Montana by facilitating professional development and training opportunities, keeping its members informed on issues that affect Montana's economy and developing public policy positions that support a strong business development environment. MEDA's public policy and legislative efforts are conducted through collaborations with other organizations in the State that have a similar mission.

The members of MEDA help businesses create jobs and increase payroll, while working to foster private investment. Membership dues and private donations support the organization. Membership is open to any individual or organization that supports the mission of MEDA.

On behalf of MEDA's Board of Directors, I am writing to express our support for SB 345, which will make several technical changes to Montana's statutes authorized tax increment financing districts. TIFDs are a proven tool for fostering economic development at the local level. The proposed bill will update the current law and ensure that the TIFD program remains an effective and useful tool for local economic development efforts.

We urge you to support SB 345 and forward it on to the full House with a "do pass" recommendation. Your action in that regard will be greatly appreciated by MEDA's membership.

Sincerely,


Dick King
President

Join us at <http://www.medamembers.org>

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