OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF MONTANA

Exhibit No. 2
Date 2-18-05
Bill No. SJ-27

BRIAN SCHWEITZER
GOVERNOR

JOHN BOHLINGER
LT. GOVERNOR

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, for the record my name is John Bohlinger and I am the Lt. Governor of the State of Montana. I rise before you today on behalf of the people of Libby of Montana.

Libby is everything that makes Montana one of the world's finest places to raise a family: Beautiful vistas, clean waterways, and strong families that love and care for their children, as they dream of the opportunities for the next generation.

Adversity and challenge have faced Libby in the past few decades. The Schweitzer/Bohlinger Administration is committed to facing these challenges with the people of Libby. Together. As Montanans.

No Montana town deserves what happened in Libby—and when such a travesty does occur, the offending party must make compensation. The people of Montana demand it be so.

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Any corporation that chooses to mislead, harm, and disregard the basic public safety of entire community will pay back that community. And they will do so in full.

I urge you—as the elected body of the people of Montana—to send this message to Congress, for not only the people of Libby, but also for all the people of Montana who stand in solidarity with our neighbors to the Northwest.

Thank you.