



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 7

DATE 3/11/05

FILE NO. HB 399

REPRESENTATIVE DAN VILLA
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Senator Glenn Roush
Chairman
Senate Natural Resources

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

I'd like to take this opportunity to urge passage of House Bill 399 by Rep. Diane Rice. This bill has the potential to immensely benefit Montana's tourism industry through a process called "cloud seeding". Having a ski resort in my district who is suffering from our continuing drought, I see this bill and its outcomes as a potential opportunity to provide adequate snowfall for many of Montana's winter tourists.

Some may raise concerns regarding the potential environmental impacts of "cloud seeding". I respond by saying it simply is not true. My district encompasses a large part of the world's longest, widest and most diverse Superfund site, with which I have had extensive, technical experience. I could not, in good conscience, advocate the passage of a bill which caused severe environmental damage.

The benefits are clear while I have yet to see potential drawbacks.

Again, Mr. Chairman, I urge the committee's concurrence and affirmative vote. If you have any questions, I am available at your convenience. I am and will remain

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Villa".

Dan Villa