

SENATE STATE ADMIN.

EXHIBIT NO. 3

160

DATE 4.13.05

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A. CLIFFORD EDWARDS
ROGER W. FRICKLE
ROBERTA ANNER-HUGHES
TAYLOR S. COOK
TRIEL D. CULVER



April 12, 2005

Honorable Brian Schweitzer
Governor of Montana
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 200801
State Capital
Helena, MT 59620-0801

RECEIVED
APR 13 2005
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

RE: *Shane Colton's Nomination to the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission*

Dear Governor Brian:

I understand there has been some flack about your nomination of my fellow Denton High School graduate, Shane Colton, to the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission. I understand he has been segregated from the other nominations for a separate hearing tomorrow, Wednesday, April 13th at 3 p.m.

And, I understand that the statements are being made that he doesn't fit the requirements of MCA 2-15-3402(2) "at least one member must be experience in the breeding and management of domestic livestock."

Shane, being raised by his father, Stan, a longtime aerial spray applicator, both in fixed wing and rotary wing craft, and a man who I have personally hired for spraying for parts of three decades, Shane learned agriculture at an early age, not only the growing of grain, but the breeding and management of livestock.

Shane's first marriage was to a multigenerational ranching family, the Glasses. I know that Shane worked for many years on that ranching operation, while in high school and in college, to include the years he was in law school. Shane is not a stranger to the practices of animal husbandry in any regard, and I hope that his nomination remains firmly committed to and advanced in spite of the "opposition" that seems to be being mounted against him.

Honorable Brian Schweitzer

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The Commission would be well served by having a native son of the Great Judith Basin, where you and I both came from, watching over the management of our wildlife, in the context of someone, like Shane, well versed in the interaction of wildlife with ranchers and farmers throughout Montana.

On a personal note, I send my very warmest and kindest regards to you and look forward to having the opportunity to see you soon.

Sincerely,

EDWARDS, FRICKLE,
ANNER-HUGHES, COOK & CULVER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Edwards', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

A. Clifford Edwards

ACE:kap/tjj