

EXHIBIT 5
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HB 16

House Bill 10
February 4, 2009
Presented by Michael Korn
Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Long-Range Planning Committee

Mr. Chairman and committee members, for the record I am Michael Korn, Assistant Chief of Law Enforcement of Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP).

I am here to offer FWP's support to HB 10. The Interoperability initiative in Montana has been and continues to be an important effort for state agencies such as ourselves. As you probably know, our game wardens work in many different and often remote environments and the system to this point has helped to enhance both officer and public safety in many parts of the state. The ability to communicate with other local, state and federal agencies is critical. Whether a law enforcement action, an emergency incident such as a wildfire or search and rescue, the benefits of an interoperable system have already proven themselves.

FWP has had and continues to play an active role in this initiative and supports continued efforts that HB 10 would allow.

Thank you.