

Exhibit No. 6

Date 1/28/09

Bill No. SB 276

SB 276 Absentee confirmation form mailed annually
Senate State Administration, RM
January 28, 2009 @ 3 PM
Secretary Linda McCulloch's Testimony

Good afternoon Mr. Chair, members of the committee.
For the record, I am Montana Secretary of State Linda McCulloch.

I am here today to support Senate Bill 276, an act revising the duration for which an address confirmation form for absentee voters is valid.

I would like to thank my friend and Legislative Mentor Senator Squires for sponsoring this bill, because it is a good thing for voters, election administrators and Clerks and Recorders.

Currently, more than 145,000 voters are on the state's absentee ballot list.

Election administrators are required to send address confirmation notices to each of these folks, twice per year ---once in January and again in July.

Reducing the number of times these forms must be mailed annually, reduces voters' frustration while saving counties time and money.

Election administrators spend a significant amount of time and resources responding to complaints regarding the confirmation process, and this proposal is a simple solution to that problem.

Handout- Actual voter response to address confirmation form mailed to an elections office in Sheridan County.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the average American moves roughly once every five years.

I am confident election administrators will be able to maintain an updated list of absentee voters and their addresses by mailing confirmations only once per year.

Whether it's a state or county office, increasing government efficiency is a good goal for all of us.

Thank you for your time.