



MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE

EXHIBIT 2
DATE 1-31-2011
HB 13

LINDA McCULLOCH

HB 13 State Employee Pay Plan
House Appropriations, RM 102
January 31, 2011 @ 8 AM
Secretary Linda McCulloch's Testimony

- Good morning Mr. Chair, members of the committee. For the record, I am Linda McCulloch, Montana Secretary of State.
- I am here today in adamant support of House Bill 13, the State Employee Pay Plan. Many thanks to Representative Hiner for bringing forth this bill.
- State employees are hardworking Montanans who provide a number of critical services to the public.
- Over the past few years, they have been forced to assume greater responsibilities, pay higher health care premiums, and cover the costs of inflation – all while dealing with a harsh pay-freeze.
- The State of Montana is currently sitting on a reserve of \$330 million, contributing to that are our state employees who negotiated a pay freeze two years ago.
- I stand behind this negotiated agreement, and I ask that you do the same.
- We have the money to pay for this agreement. It is the right thing to do.
- It's a small price to pay for the high quality of state employees that we enjoy in Montana. These are staff who work for me and staff who work for you.
- Montana's hardworking state employees are counting on you. Their families are counting on you. Vote "yes" for House Bill 13.
- Thank you for your time.