EXHIBIT 4
DATE 1/14/09
HB 18

RESOLUTION 2008 - 23

SUPPORT FOR MAIL BALLOT ELECTIONS

It is the intent of the Montana Association of Counties to support efforts to adopt a mail ballot process for conducting elections.

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon has demonstrated that vote by mail (VBM) elections are secure, efficient and cost-effective; and

WHEREAS, two separate studies of Oregon's VBM election process concluded that VBM elections result in a more accurate count; and

WHEREAS, the costs of holding elections are increasing; and

WHEREAS, it is becoming increasingly difficult for local election officials to find election judges; and

WHEREAS, Montana's elections continue to be a "hybrid" system of multiple elections on election day (absentee balloting, precinct balloting and same day registration balloting); and,

WHEREAS, the current "hybrid" elections are more expensive and more difficult to administer than a VBM election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Association of Counties support efforts to adopt a state-wide system for vote by mail elections.

SPONSOR:	**DISTRICTS 10 & 11**
RECOMMENDATION:	**Do Pass**
PRIORITY:	**High**
REFERRED TO:	**Resolutions Committee** **Clerk & Recorders Association**
ADOPTED:	**Annual Conference, Hamilton, MT September 24, 2008**