

State-Tribal Budget and Tax Research

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Mission: The mission of the Montana Budget and Policy Center is to advance sound public policy through timely and objective research and analysis in order to promote shared prosperity and opportunity for all Montanans.

Background: Recently, the Montana Budget and Policy Center has been considering how Montana's Native American population and state/tribal relations fit in our mission statement. Currently, we are considering a project highlighting the complex tax/budget relationship between the state and tribes.

Possible topics for this project include:

- Brief background on tribal sovereignty/ state-tribal relations
- Federal tribal funding streamed through the state
- Programs supported by General Fund dollars
- Revenue Sharing Agreements (Tobacco, Alcohol, Gas, TERO)

Questions: We want this document to be beneficial to legislators. The following questions can help guide our discussion.

- Would a project of this nature be useful to you or your constituents?
- What tax/budget elements of state-tribal relations would be most beneficial to analyze for you and your constituents?
- Are there any specific programs or services you would recommend including in this project?
- Are there specific taxes or revenue sharing agreements that benefit your tribe?
- Are there any specific taxes or revenue sharing agreements that have a negative impact on your tribe?
- What other recommendations do you have for us as we move forward?