



MONTANA LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Legislative Fiscal Division

Room 110 Capitol Building * P.O. Box 201711 * Helena, MT 59620-1711 * (406) 444-2986 * FAX (406) 444-3036

Director
AMY CARLSON

DATE: September 6, 2018
TO: Legislative Finance Committee
FROM: Amy Carlson, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
RE: 2021 Biennium Budget Recommendation

The budget submission for the Legislative Branch is due October 10th. The following recommendation has been presented in draft form to the Legislative Council (Council) which approved this temporary budget contingent on the approval of the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC). The following summarizes the budget recommendation for the Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD).

2019 Biennium Budget Modifications

Several modifications to the LFD budget occurred during the 2019 biennium. The following discusses the modification impacts in the 2019 biennium, including:

- SB 261 reductions of \$58,420 in FY 2018 and \$16,451 in FY 2019 in personal services. A total of \$23,130 was eliminated for a 1% pay adjustment which the LFD was still required to provide in both FY 2018 and FY 2019. Operating expense reductions of \$7,976 in FY 2019 also occurred
- Special session reductions of \$96,103 in FY 2018 and \$32,013 in personal services in FY 2019. Of this amount, \$35,836 reduced the employer share of the state contribution to insurance. Operating expenses were reduced by \$32,013 in FY 2019
- SB 9 restored general fund appropriations for FY 2019 of \$32,013 in personal services and operating expenses

To manage the reductions over the biennium, the LFD left vacancies unfilled for several months, reduced training for staff and legislators and delayed purchases of supplies and materials.

Personal services

In the 2019 biennium, four positions or 19.5% of the FTE within the LFD turned over. Pay adjustments to bring staff closer to market were provided for the purpose of retaining trained staff.

The following page includes a figure outlining the appropriations for the Legislative Fiscal Division between FY 2014 and FY 2021 with biennial growth comparisons between the 2015 and 2017 biennia. Due to the very low budget in FY 2018, the biennial growth is also measured from the FY 2019 base budget doubled.

2021 Biennium Budget

As you know budgets are built from the appropriations in the second year of the biennium. Statewide present law will capture the personal services, fixed costs, and information items in the

budget. In addition to those items, LFD will have one change package that reduces the first year of the biennium budget to account for less operating expense in the interim.

Legislative Fiscal Division- PL (Program 27)										Biennial Growth from FY 19 times 2	Average Biennial Growth from 15 Bi from	Average Biennial Growth from 17 Bi	
Original Appropriated										Request			
Fiscal 2014 Fiscal 2015 Fiscal 2016 Fiscal 2017 Fiscal 2018(1) Fiscal 2019(1) Fiscal 2020 Fiscal 2021													
FTE	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.00	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50			
Personal Svcs	1,805,072	1,893,513	1,901,106	1,960,901	1,722,371	1,925,713	2,008,067	2,001,445			4.1%	2.7%	1.9%
Operating Exp	68,064	107,140	62,549	88,700	82,700	100,724	85,536	109,536			-3.2%	3.6%	13.6%
Total Costs	1,873,136	2,000,653	1,963,655	2,049,601	1,805,071	2,026,437	2,093,603	2,110,981			3.7%	2.8%	2.4%
<u>Fund Sources</u>													
General Fund	1,873,136	2,000,653	1,963,655	2,049,601	1,805,071	2,026,437	2,093,603	2,110,981			3.7%	2.8%	2.4%
Total Funds	1,873,136	2,000,653	1,963,655	2,049,601	1,805,071	2,026,437	2,093,603	2,110,981			3.7%	2.8%	2.4%
(1) FY 2018 and FY 2019 include legislatively authorized reductions in special session and the restorations in FY 2019													