

Montana Department of Livestock

P.O. Box 202001
Helena MT, 59620-2001
406/444-7323
On the web at liv.mt.gov

EXHIBIT 4
DATE 1-6-11
HB Budget Overview



Department of Livestock / Who We Are

Who we are: An executive branch agency, MDOL is the only state agency governed by a citizens' board, the Board of Livestock (MCA 2-15-3102). Members are nominated by industry, appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate, and serve six-year terms. The board consists of four representatives from the cattle industry and one each from the dairy, swine and sheep/wool industries.

Mission Statement: *"To control and eradicate animal diseases, prevent the transmission of animal diseases to humans, and to protect the livestock industry from theft and predatory animals."*

History: MDOL is the state's oldest law enforcement agency, having been created in 1885 and empowered to hire stock detectives. Over the past 125 years, once-separate state functions relating to livestock, such as the Board of Sheep Commissioners and Livestock Sanitary Board, evolved into today's Department of Livestock.

Organization: MDOL consists of five divisions with interlinked duties:

Animal Health is responsible for the prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases, and preventing the spread of animal diseases to humans.

The *Brands Division* enforces brand laws, investigates and prevents livestock theft, and works with AH to regulate animal movement within and into the state. It's the department's oldest and, with its presence in the field, most visible division.

Centralized Services supports department operations with administrative functions such as accounting, budgeting, payroll, personnel and other administrative functions.

The *Meat & Milk Inspection Division* consists of two bureaus: Meat & Poultry Inspection, and Milk & Egg Inspection. Both have similar missions in ensuring that meat, poultry/meat products, eggs and dairy products processed in Montana meet state and federal requirements via product/site inspection and licensing.

The *Diagnostic Laboratory Division* is the only accredited, full service veterinary laboratory in Montana. It provides disease diagnostic support to veterinarians, livestock producers and the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks as well as other state and federal agencies. The lab also provides supports to the ASHD and Milk & Egg Bureau, and helps protect public health by testing dairy products and for zoonotic diseases such as rabies.

Additionally, the Milk Control Bureau, Board of Horseracing and Livestock Loss Prevention & Mitigation Board are administratively attached to MDOL.

Laws and Rules: Laws and rules establishing the board and department and directing its activities can be found in Montana Code Annotated Title 81 and Administrative Rules of Montana Chapter 32.

MDOL Budget Overview

Most of the department's operational budget - approximately 75 percent - is derived from user-paid fees such as per capita, brand inspection and lab fees. User-generated fees are deposited into state special revenue accounts, and must be legislatively authorized before being used in programs where the fees originated. The remaining 25 percent is split between state general funds (about 10 percent), some of which is required to match federal dollars for federal programs, and federal funds (about 15 percent).