

HB 420 by Rep Dan Salomon
Executive Action

- While the funding for HB 420 has been passed in HB 2, section C, HB 420 still needs to pass today as amended, for several reasons.
- Current law limits Montana to four (& only four) food & ag development centers. HB 420 allows more flexibility.
- Amendments clean up bill language by restoring Research & Commercialization funding & decreasing amounts requested from other sources.
- Amendments contain coordinating language with HB 2, so there is one \$300,00 appropriation, not two.
- In 2012, the food & ag developments centers created 41.5 new job, leveraged more than \$2 million in outside funding, & started 19 new business, & helped 24 businesses expand.
- In 2012 the centers saw a 24% increase in the number of clients served. This funding is essential for supporting increased demand.
- The centers turned \$195,000 into \$2 million. Let's see what they can do with \$300,000.