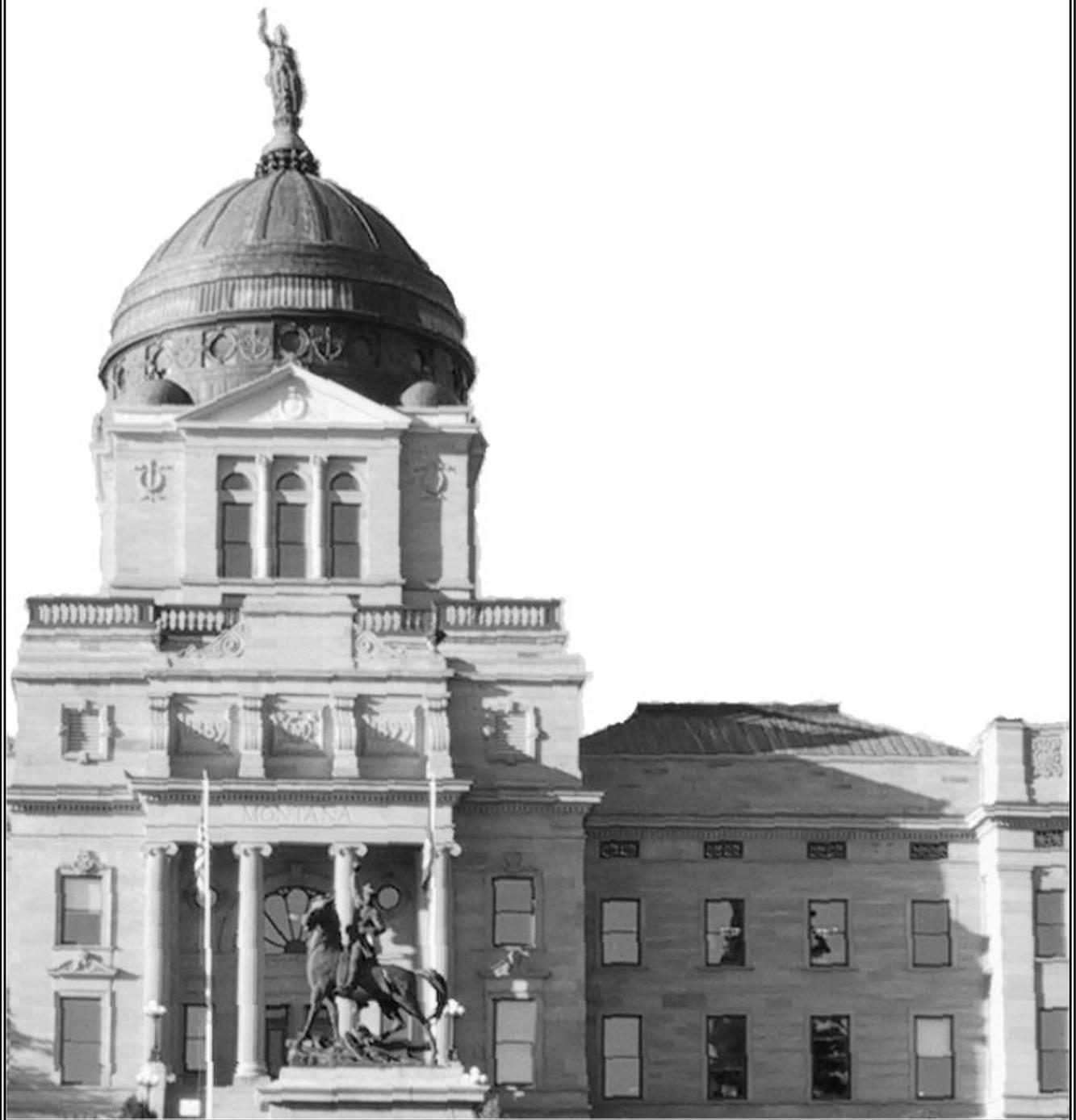


LEGISLATIVE BUDGET ANALYSIS 2017 BIENNIUM

VOLUME 1—STATEWIDE PERSPECTIVES



**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET ANALYSIS
2017 BIENNIUM
VOLUME 1 – STATEWIDE PERSPECTIVES**

**REPORT FROM THE LEGISLATIVE FISCAL DIVISION
TO THE SIXTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
JANUARY 2015**

Legislative Finance Committee

Senator Llew Jones (Chair)
Representative Galen Hollenbaugh (Vice Chair)
Representative Duane Ankney
Representative Rob Cook
Representative Kimberly Dudik
Representative Steve Gibson
Representative Pat Noonan
Senator Mary Caferro
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Lois Steinbeck

Kris Wilkinson

Acknowledgements

The Legislative Budget Analysis report is the product of many hours of analysis by the staff of the Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD), a nonpartisan office which provides fiscal and policy information and advice to the legislature. The LFD thanks the many entities that assisted in its completion.

For information on this report and others, contact the Legislative Fiscal Division at (406) 444-2986 or visit the division's website at: <http://leg.mt.gov/css/fiscal/default.asp>

The LFD is located at Room 110, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620.



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

December 2014

Members of the Sixty-Fourth Legislature:

I submit for your consideration the high level state budget outlook for 2017 biennium as Volume 1 of the Legislative Budget Analysis. More details in volumes 2 through 8 will be available prior to session at <http://leg.mt.gov/fbp-2017.asp>. Additional reference material, standard charts and tables are available online at the same website as appendices to this Volume 1. If you are unable to access the online version, please let staff know and we will provide you with printed versions of the documents.

The Legislative Fiscal Division works for you, the legislators of Montana. We have no partisan alliance and seek to deliver high quality information and analysis of fiscal issues. A significant quantity of additional information is available online at our general website: www.leg.mt.gov/css/fiscal. Some specific resources that you may be interested in are reports on specific fiscal issues presented to the Legislative Finance Committee over the interim. Reports on state employee pay, local government infrastructure, and our budgeting and analysis methodologies were some of the key areas researched this interim.

In addition to this analysis, the LFD has access to the state accounting system and other resources for researching specific fiscal questions. If a fiscal question arises, please feel free to contact either myself or any member of our staff to help answer your questions.

We look forward to working with you all during the 2015 Session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Amy Carlson".

Amy Carlson
Legislative Fiscal Analyst

