

**Agency Budget Comparison**

The following table summarizes the total proposed budget by year, type of expenditure, and source of funding.

Agency Budget Comparison								
Budget Item	Base Fiscal 2014	Approp. Fiscal 2015	Budget Fiscal 2016	Budget Fiscal 2017	Biennium Fiscal 14-15	Biennium Fiscal 16-17	Biennium Change	Biennium % Change
FTE	134.22	134.22	133.22	138.39	134.22	138.39	4.17	3.11 %
Personal Services	9,983,340	11,547,781	11,376,976	11,380,424	21,531,121	22,757,400	1,226,279	5.70 %
Operating Expenses	2,813,090	3,516,096	3,717,429	3,292,410	6,329,186	7,009,839	680,653	10.75 %
Equipment & Intangible Assets	35,837	50,000	80,000	20,000	85,837	100,000	14,163	16.50 %
Transfers	0	80,000	85,000	85,000	80,000	170,000	90,000	112.50 %
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$12,832,267</b>	<b>\$15,193,877</b>	<b>\$15,259,405</b>	<b>\$14,777,834</b>	<b>\$28,026,144</b>	<b>\$30,037,239</b>	<b>\$2,011,095</b>	<b>7.18 %</b>
General Fund	10,614,797	13,046,275	12,666,333	12,740,290	23,661,072	25,406,623	1,745,551	7.38 %
State/Other Special Rev. Funds	2,217,470	2,147,602	2,593,072	2,037,544	4,365,072	4,630,616	265,544	6.08 %
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$12,832,267</b>	<b>\$15,193,877</b>	<b>\$15,259,405</b>	<b>\$14,777,834</b>	<b>\$28,026,144</b>	<b>\$30,037,239</b>	<b>\$2,011,095</b>	<b>7.18 %</b>

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Legislature is to exercise the legislative power of state government vested in the Legislature by The Constitution of the State of Montana. The mission of the Legislative Branch, i.e., the consolidated legislative agency, is to provide the administrative structure to support accomplishment of the mission of the Legislature. For more information, please refer to the agency profile: <http://leg.mt.gov/fbp-2017.asp>

**Agency Highlights**

<b>Legislative Branch Major Budget Highlights</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operating costs changes are due to:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Cyclical nature of the legislative business cycle</li> <li>◦ A new proposal for additional participation in the Capitol complex security plan</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Personal services changes are primarily due to:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ A new proposal for the creation of a joint committee of the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee and the Environmental Quality Council to meet during the interim</li> <li>◦ Elimination of 1.00 FTE in the Legislative Audit Division</li> <li>◦ Retirement of long-time staff replaced at a lower rate</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Agency Discussion**

All divisions of the Legislative Branch make requests for cyclical adjustments, primarily for information technology, temporary personnel, printing, and broadcasting. Most of the increases and decreases contained in this proposal reflect the cyclical nature of the legislative business cycle.

**5% Plan**

Statute requires that agencies submit plans to reduce general fund and certain state special revenue funds by 5%. The Legislative Branch has provided a plan for \$695,933 in reductions. The agency submitted plan is contained in the appendix section.

### Agency Personal Services

The Legislative Branch typically hires at entry and will continue to do so. The pay philosophy for career ladders will remain the same as in the past--when promoted, the employee's salary increase will be at least the entry level salary for the occupation wage range of the promoted-to position. A promotion increase may not be awarded if it results in a division exceeding its approved budget.

The Legislative Branch Pay Plan encompasses the agency pay philosophy and provides parameters for merit-based and promotion-based pay adjustments. The branch implemented pay adjustments approved by the legislature in HB 13. In addition, the Legislative Branch offers a flexible schedule and telework options to those occupations that are eligible. Branch directors will continue to evaluate options available to address employee retention.

The Legislative Branch has 12.8% of the workforce eligible for retirement in the 2017 biennium and the Branch continues to work on succession planning.

### Comparison of FY 2015 Legislative Base to FY 2015 Appropriation

The following highlights the differences between the FY 2015 appropriations as shown in the main table to the FY 2015 legislative appropriations used for purposes of the budget base, by program.

FY 2015 Appropriation Transactions - Legislative Branch				
Program	Legislative Appropriation	Legislative Approp - OTO	Operating Plan	Total Executive Implementation
20 LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	\$8,002,597	\$292,500	-	\$8,295,097
Personal Services	5,404,730		31,482	5,436,212
Operating Expenses	2,547,867	292,500	(111,482)	2,728,885
Equipment & Intangible Assets	50,000			50,000
Transfers			80,000	80,000
21 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES	573,277			573,277
Personal Services	67,274			
Operating Expenses	506,003			
27 LEGISLATIVE FISCAL DIVISION	2,000,653		-	2,000,653
Personal Services	1,913,513		(20,000)	1,893,513
Operating Expenses	87,140		20,000	107,140
28 LEGISLATIVE AUDIT	4,324,850			4,324,850
Personal Services	4,150,782			
Operating Expenses	174,068			
Agency Total	\$14,901,377	\$292,500	-	\$15,193,877

While operating plan changes occurred, the net impact to the FY 2015 legislative appropriation was zero.

**Funding**

The following table shows proposed agency funding by source of authority as proposed. Funding for each program is discussed in detail in the individual program narratives that follow.

Funds	HB2	Non-Budgeted Proprietary	Statutory Appropriation	Total All Sources	% Total All Funds
General Fund	25,406,623	0	0	25,406,623	84.58 %
State Special Total	4,630,616	0	0	4,630,616	15.42 %
Federal Special Total	0	0	0	0	0.00 %
Proprietary Total	0	0	0	0	0.00 %
Other Total	0	0	0	0	0.00 %
<b>Total All Funds</b>	<b>\$30,037,239</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$30,037,239</b>	
<b>Percent - Total All Sources</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>	<b>0.00 %</b>	<b>0.00 %</b>		

The Legislative Branch is mainly funded with general fund. State special revenues support the costs associated with the state broadcasting service (TVMT); the preparation, publication, distribution of the Montana Codes Annotated; and a portion of the activities of the Legislative Audit Division.

While not shown in the table above, the Legislative Branch has statutory appropriation authority for the following:

- Legislative Branch reserve account is any portion of unexpended and unencumbered money included in the “feed bill” (the bill that funds the legislative session each year) and remaining carry forward appropriations for the divisions. The funds may be used for major Legislative Branch information technology projects including hardware, software, and consultant services for new initiatives and replacement and upgrading of existing systems
- All money for audits transferred to the legislative auditor must be deposited in a state special revenue fund in the state treasury to the credit of the Office of the Legislative Auditor. The money deposited in excess of general and pay plan appropriations is derived from higher than estimated audit revenues and may be used to pay expenses incurred in auditing state agencies based on an approved operating plan

**Budget Summary by Category**

The following summarizes the total budget utilizing the FY 2015 Legislative base, present law adjustments, and new proposals.

Budget Item	-----General Fund-----				-----Total Funds-----			
	Leg. Budget Fiscal 2016	Leg. Budget Fiscal 2017	Leg. Biennium Fiscal 16-17	Percent of Budget	Leg. Budget Fiscal 2016	Leg. Budget Fiscal 2017	Leg. Biennium Fiscal 16-17	Percent of Budget
2015 Budget	12,753,775	12,753,775	25,507,550	100.40 %	14,901,377	14,901,377	29,802,754	99.22 %
PL Adjustments	(109,287)	(33,594)	(142,881)	(0.56)%	386,091	(93,879)	292,212	0.97 %
New Proposals	21,845	20,109	41,954	0.17 %	(28,063)	(29,664)	(57,727)	(0.19)%
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$12,666,333</b>	<b>\$12,740,290</b>	<b>\$25,406,623</b>		<b>\$15,259,405</b>	<b>\$14,777,834</b>	<b>\$30,037,239</b>	