



**Steve Bullock, Governor**

**Richard H. Opper,  
Director**

December 2, 2014

Legislative Finance Committee  
State Capitol  
Helena MT 59601

Members of Legislative Finance Committee:

The State of Montana will not tolerate the abuse and neglect of patients at MDC. The Department of Public Health and Human Services is committed to making any and all changes necessary to ensure the safe and effective treatment of people with serious developmental disabilities in Montana. To ensure that any changes are consistent with the short and long-term interests of those needing the state's care, Governor Bullock has directed the Department to consult with a nationally renowned expert on disability law, David Ferleger. Mr. Ferleger will serve as the Special Advisor on the treatment of Montanans with serious developmental disabilities. A copy of Mr. Ferleger's resume is being distributed to the committee. He will be consulting with MDC leadership and staff, disability advocates, family members, community providers, and legislators before advising the Department on next steps.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Opper  
Director  
MT Department of Public Health and Human Services

Attachment