



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPONSOR'S REBUTTAL TO FISCAL NOTE

House Bill Number: 138 Date Prepared: 01/09/15

Short Title: Housing Needs / Discharge Plans from mental health facilities

Sponsor: Rep. Ellie Hill

Generally, why do you disagree with the fiscal note?

The description of fiscal impact does not recognize the cost of releasing mentally ill patients into communities and their almost certain likelihood to RETURN to Warm Springs.

Specifically, what in the fiscal note do you feel is flawed?

(Describe specific assumptions, calculations, technical issues, etc.)

- * Immediately upon admission into Warm Springs a patient can be screened for housing placement. As the former Executive Director of the State's largest emergency homeless shelter, I attest that it does not take 60 days to house an individual who has been adjudicated mentally ill.
 - * Moreover, based on HJR 110, our recent interim study on state institutions we know that Warm Springs suffers from high recidivism. Many of these patients are duplicative and once housed have an enormously higher likelihood not to return!
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What is your estimate of the fiscal impact?

Sponsor Signature: 

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