May 8, 2019

The Honorable Corey Stapleton  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol  
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Secretary Stapleton:

In accordance with the power vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Montana, I hereby veto Senate Bill 354 (SB 354), “AN ACT ADOPTING THE MONTANA BORN-ALIVE INFANT PROTECTION ACT; PROVIDING THAT VIABLE, BORN-ALIVE INFANTS MAY NOT BE DEPRIVED OF MEDICALLY APPROPRIATE AND REASONABLE MEDICAL TREATMENT; PROVIDING PENALTIES; REPEALING SECTION 50-20-108, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.”


The situation SB 354 purportedly seeks to address is a medical practice that does not exist. This bill does nothing more than politicize decisions that are deeply personal and medically complex. I believe women, families and health care providers are best able to make these difficult medical decisions without political interference that is meant only to inflame and cause division.

For these reasons, I veto SB 354.

Sincerely,

STEVE BULLOCK  
Governor

cc: Legislative Services Division  
Scott Sales, President of the Senate  
Greg Hertz, Speaker of the House