Helena, Montana
February 7, 2019

House convened at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Speaker presiding.
Invocation by Representative Stewart Peregoy. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call. All members present. Quorum present.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

Speaker Hertz moved the House revert to Order of Business #11, Special Orders of the Day, for the purpose of receiving the State of the Tribal Nations Address by the Honorable President of the Fort Belknap Assiniboine and Gros Ventre Tribes, Andrew Werk Jr. Motion carried.

Majority Leader Tschida moved Speaker Hertz be authorized to appoint a Committee of two members to escort President Werk into the House Chamber. Motion carried.

Speaker Hertz appointed Representative Bahr and Representative McKamey. The Committee was discharged.

Sergeant-at-Arms Murfitt notified Speaker Hertz the Fort Belknap Assiniboine and Gros Ventre President, Andrew Werk Jr. awaited entrance to the House Chamber.

The Committee escorted President Werk into the Chamber.

Speaker Hertz introduced the Honorable Andrew Werk Jr., President of the Fort Belknap Assiniboine and Gros Ventre Tribes. President Werk gave the following remarks:

Thank you members of the legislative branch for inviting me to give this important message. As we come together this afternoon, we look back, not to dwell on the past but to learn from and be guided by it. We look forward to the future, to where we want to be and how to protect and address the needs of our people and our communities.

Our best opportunity is through partnership and collaboration.

Native Americans, Tribal governments, citizens of Montana, state and local governments, and the State Legislature all share in the important responsibility to care for one another and look after our great State of Montana.

While we may not agree on all of the issues, when we come together – every two years for our biennial legislative session – we strive to understand and respect all opinions and all viewpoints. This is what collaboration and partnership is about. This mutual respect and understanding between and among all our sovereign governments is the foundation for making decisions that best serve us all.
The needs are increasing in every sector of government, presenting challenges, but more importantly, opportunities, and this is why partnerships and collaborations are important in this session.

Given how closely tribal governmental services are impacted by the decisions of the federal government, the recent shutdown translated into significant struggle on our reservations to keep important services available to tribal members. On that note, I want to personally thank Governor Bullock for reaching out to our respective tribal governments at the onset of the shutdown to see how the state government could assist our people. Thank you, Governor!

That is our tribal tradition: helping each other in order to survive, making limited resources stretch, enduring harsh weather, and always – always – helping each other in times of need. Beyond the boundaries of our reservations – all across this great state – that is what binds us as Montanans.

We can all acknowledge that limited resources and competing demands for those resources is a challenge, but when we accept and embrace that we are in this together, we see beyond the challenges and the challenges turn into opportunities. United we rise, divided we fall.

We accept this challenge. And today I ask all of you here to keep hearts and minds open to all of our needs, especially those whose needs are greatest and those who are most vulnerable, including our children, elders, and veterans.

As I look around this room, I see the faces of all of Montana. And this legislative session, I am proud to report, a record number of Native Americans are serving and representing the interests of tribal citizens, community members, and tribal and local governments across the state. Our Native American legislators are an inspiration to us all and are setting a strong example for future generations.

The people of Montana elected eleven Native American legislators – three in the Senate and eight in the House. This is up from a total of nine in the 2017 legislature and eight in the 2015 legislature.

The power of organizing and voting gives Native Americans a voice in the development of policies. The record number of Native American legislators, as well as a record number of Native Americans showing up at the polls – despite a history of voter suppression and apathy.

But it's not about your needs vs. my needs, or Republican vs. Democrat, or funding this department or that department. It's about helping ensure that all our needs are met, helping all of us thrive. We share the responsibility of being a part of this process to find solutions.

The Native American Caucus is actively pursuing legislative priorities to support the interests of Indian Country in several key areas, including improving access to healthcare and healthcare services; protecting Native American children and solving more cases of missing and murdered women and girls; youth suicide prevention; honoring our veterans; and preserving Indigenous languages and facilitating the education of Native youth.

As you know, in 2015, the Montana Legislature passed the bipartisan Health and Economic
Livelihood Partnership (HELP) Act, extending health care coverage to Montanans. Since the passage of Medicaid Expansion over 15,000 tribal members have more access to healthcare.

Not only does the HELP Act have the potential to assist in closing the staggering American Indian health disparities gap, it brings much-needed health care dollars into Indian Health Services tribal and urban health facilities.

Medicaid expansion is critical for improving American Indian health and health care delivery systems in Indian Country, resulting in a significant influx of federal dollars into the state. Because of these enormous benefits to American Indians and to Montana, I urge Montana legislators to continue to support Medicaid expansion so that low-income Montanans and eligible American Indians can continue to access the type of health care that is critical to Montanans’ health, wellness, and sense of wellbeing.

The state of Montana in partnership with Tribal Nations have created community-based tools to address the increasing number of youth suicides in Montana and Indian country. We have the responsibility to continue to support efforts by creating policies to commit resources to saving the lives of our youth.

My mother once stood in this very room advocating for solutions impacting tribal communities, as a legislator. I am proud of the work that my mother and other inspirational indigenous women leaders have accomplished in this room. I am humbled to look out and see native women here today.

We must continue to work with them to address the challenges that persist. We should all be appalled at the staggering number of murdered and missing indigenous women and children. Native American women and girls face a murder rate that is 10 times the national average. More than 4 in 5 Native women have experienced violence.

Just recently, Senator Jon Tester wrote a letter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Bureau of Indian affairs criticizing the handling of the case of 14-year-old Henny Scott of Lame Deer, who was found murdered in December.

It took 13 days for law enforcement to notify the public that a missing person’s report had been filed. Here is what Senator Tester had to say, "I am troubled by the trend of inadequate responses to these types of situations." Tester went on, “We cannot hope to solve the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women epidemic if we do not address how law enforcement initially responds in these cases."

Fortunately, this is a bipartisan issue. Senator Daines has also been instrumental in assisting with ways to address the issue and having called for a hearing in Montana.

Several bills have been introduced this session that would change laws related to the reporting of missing children and address missing and murdered indigenous women in Montana. These are first steps towards making sure missing Native children and Native women do not fall through the cracks of our legal system. In the words of the Indian Caucus and those who are still missing, “Our
Indian lives, especially missing women and children's lives, matter!"

It’s time to act on this crisis. This isn’t a “reservation” problem, and this isn't a Native American problem. This is a Montana problem, and we must come together and unite as Montanans to address the causes of this crisis and implement a solution.

Governor Bullock declared in his State of the State address that, Our State is Stronger than ever Before. We agree, with the caveat that, Our State isn’t Strong unless its Indigenous people are Strong.

It is critical for Montana’s Indian country to preserve our history and pass down our tribes’ languages to the next generation. Language preservation is important to our people. Each tribe in Montana has their own sacred history and teachings to pass on, and we fear that the gap is closing within these opportunities to teach our youth.

Now, more than ever, we realize preserving our indigenous languages is a crucial building block within our culture and is of immense value to humanity. We need to continue to build programs that will sustain our tribal nation’s diverse languages and honor our heritage.

We urge your support of bills to preserve Indigenous languages in the state and particularly to extend the Indian Preservation Program enacted in 2013.

We also urge your support of bills that help our young people receive the education they deserve and need to compete in the workforce and thrive in the world. This includes bills that would help students with low English proficiency improve their language skills and ensure that credits earned by students at Montana's seven tribal colleges are transferable to the Montana university system. Suicide rates in Montana are unacceptably high, especially among American Indian youth. Between 2016 and 2017, over 18 % of American Indian high school students in Montana attempted suicide at least once. The suicide rate among American Indians ages 11 to 24 is more than five times as high as the statewide suicide rate.

We can and must do better. Fortunately, there are several bills so far this session aimed at addressing this travesty, including a bill to encourage mental health screening for students and ensure that students have the opportunity to receive appropriate services following the screenings.

We must take care of our veterans, including Native American veterans. Taking care of our veterans is how we show our appreciation and respect for their services. Native Americans in this state have the highest rate of military enlistment in the country. Several bills have been introduced that honor the contributions our veterans have made to this nation by extending services and funding for our veterans.

While Native Americans are showing up in record numbers at the polls, we know that efforts to undermine Native voting continue right here in our state. So that all of our voices are heard and that all our votes are counted, Tribes and other must continue communicating and meeting with county election offices to carry out the voting rights laws so that all eligible voters have access to polls.
I have identified many challenges tonight, and there are more. The fight continues to protect our lands and waters from pipelines; to safeguard our health from the effects of climate change with its uniquely far-reaching and disproportionate impact to Native people; to retain our cultural identity; and to protect our cultural sites and the lands where we practice our traditional ways. From the Badger-Two Medicine in the northwest corner of the state and stretching east to the prairies, each tribe has sacred places threatened by industrial development. Tribes must have a meaningful role in protecting and managing their ancestral homelands.

It is imperative that our tribal governments are recognized at the same level as the state government and that we are adequately represented in all levels of government. The engagement of tribes at the Montana Legislative Session is an important part of a participatory government and Fort Belknap is honored to deliver the State Tribal Nations Address this year.

With collaboration and partnership, every challenge presents an opportunity. Indian people, like all people in Montana, are resilient. Our governing bodies will continue, as will yours, to provide and protect our people, our constituents, as best we can. We will continue to build bridges to work together on mutual issues, and find resolution to those we are not yet at agreement on.

The future looks bright across the Big Sky. Thank you.

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Speaker Hertz thanked President Werk for his remarks and requested the Committee escort him from the Chamber.

Sergeant-at-Arms Murfitt escorted the guests from the House Chamber.

Speaker Hertz called the House back to order.

**BILLS** (Ricci, Chair):

Correctly engrossed: HB 21, HB 54, HB 93, HB 146, HB 190, HB 256.
Transmitted to the Senate: HB 30, HB 44, HB 45, HB 58, HB 65, HB 92.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY AND FEDERAL RELATIONS** (Zolnikov, Chair):

HB 93, introduced bill, be amended as follows:

1. Title, page 1, line 8.
   Following: "PROVIDING AN"
   Insert: "IMMEDIATE"
   Following: line 6
   Insert: 
   "(1) "Ancillary charges" means:
   (a) optional charges selected by a customer that are not necessary for the provision of
   water or sewer utility service; or
   (b) adjustments in charges, including increases or decreases in charges, necessary to
   accommodate fee changes made in accordance with 69-1-224 or 69-1-403, or both."
   Renumber: subsequent subsections

   Following: "(3)"
   Insert: "(a)"
   Strike: "the most recent publicly available"
   Insert: "an average established in a"

   Following: "Montana"
   Insert: "and, unless a similar adjustment is incorporated into the average established by the
   commission, adjusted by the lesser of 2% a biennium or the increase in the consumer price
   index for that biennium"

5. Page 2, line 14 through line 15.
   Strike: "The" on line 14 through "study." on line 15
   Insert: "(b) The term does not include ancillary charges collected by a small sewer or water utility."

   Following: "(2);"
   Insert: "or"

   Strike: subsection (5) in its entirety

   Strike: "July 1, 2019"
   Insert: "[the effective date of this act]"

   Strike: section 9 in its entirety
   Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 9. Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and
   approval."


JUDICIARY (Doane, Chair):

HB 21, introduced bill, be amended as follows:

1. Title, page 1, line 7 through line 8.  
Strike: the second "PROVIDING" on line 7 through "APPROPRIATION;" on line 8

2. Page 2, line 7 through line 11. 
Strike: section 2 in its entirety 
Renumber: subsequent sections


HB 146, introduced bill, be amended as follows:

1. Page 5, line 7. 
Following: line 6
Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 10. Severability. If a part of [this act] is invalid, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid part remain in effect. If a part of [this act] is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part remains in effect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid applications."
Renumber: subsequent sections


HB 256, introduced bill, be amended as follows:

1. Title, page 1, line 4.  
Following: "VEHICLE"
Insert: "AND VESSEL"

2. Title, page 1, line 5. 
Following: "VEHICLE"
Strike: "TITLE"
Insert: "AND VESSEL TITLES"

3. Page 1, line 13. 
Following: "vehicle"
Insert: "or vessel"

4. Page 1, line 13. 
Following: "vehicle's"
Insert: "or vessel's"
5. Page 1, line 17.
   Following: "number"
   Insert: ", if applicable,"
   Following: the second "vehicle"
   Insert: "or vessel"

6. Page 1, line 18.
   Following: "vehicle"
   Insert: "or vessel"

7. Page 1, line 19.
   Following: "vehicle"
   Insert: "or vessel"

8. Page 1, line 25.
   Following: "vehicle"
   Insert: "or vessel"

   Following: "vehicle"
   Insert: "or vessel"

10. Page 1, line 29.
    Following: "vehicle"
    Insert: "or vessel"

    Following: "vehicle"
    Insert: "or vessel"

    Following: "vehicle"
    Insert: "or vessel"

13. Page 2, line 5.
    Strike: "vehicle"
    Following: "title"
    Insert: "for the vehicle or vessel"

    Strike: "vehicle's"
    Following: "title"
    Insert: "of the vehicle or vessel"
Following: line 6
Insert: "(5) The beneficiary does not acquire any use, ownership, economic, or other interest in the vehicle until the beneficiary has filed the documents required by subsection (4) and the department has either issued a replacement title or effected the transfer of the title."
Renumber: subsequent subsections

Following: "vehicle"
Insert: "or vessel"


STATE ADMINISTRATION (Mandeville, Chair): 2/7/2019

TRANSPORTATION (Loge, Chair): 2/6/2019
HB 190, introduced bill, be amended as follows:

1. Page 2, line 8.
Strike: "Except as provided in subsection (1)(d), the"
Insert: "The"


MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Senate bills passed and transmitted to the House for concurrence: 2/5/2019

SB 12, introduced by D. Salomon
SB 70, introduced by P. Flowers
SB 91, introduced by D. Salomon
SB 133, introduced by B. Gillespie

FIRST READING AND COMMITMENT OF BILLS

The following House bills were introduced, read first time, and referred to committees:

HB 406, introduced by W. Curdy, referred to Judiciary.

STATE INTERNET/BBS COPY
HB 407, introduced by B. Brown, referred to Fish, Wildlife and Parks.


HB 411, introduced by W. Curdy, J. Cohenour, referred to Natural Resources.


HB 418, introduced by J. Read, R. Garcia, C. Glimm, referred to Natural Resources.


The following Senate bills were introduced, read first time, and referred to committees:

**SB 12**, introduced by D. Salomon (by request of the Education Interim Committee), referred to Education.

**SB 70**, introduced by P. Flowers (by request of the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks), referred to Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

**SB 91**, introduced by D. Salomon, L. Jones, referred to Agriculture.

**SB 133**, introduced by B. Gillespie, referred to Agriculture.

**THIRD READING OF BILLS**

The following bills having been read three several times, title and history agreed to, were disposed of in the following manner:

**HB 30** passed as follows:


Total 100

Nays: None.

Total 0

Voted absentee: None.

Excused: None.

Total 0

Absent or not voting: None.

Total 0

**HB 44** passed as follows:

HB 45 passed as follows:


Total: 89


Total: 11

Voted absentee: None.

Excused: None.

Total: 0

Absent or not voting: None.

Total: 0
HB 58 passed as follows:

Total 99

Nays: Mandeville.
Total 1

Voted absentee: None.

Excused: None.
Total 0

Absent or not voting: None.
Total 0

HB 65 passed as follows:

Total 57

Total 43

Voted absentee: None.
Excused: None.
Total 0

Absent or not voting: None.
Total 0

HB 92 passed as follows:

Total 57

Total 43

Voted absentee: None.

Excused: None.
Total 0

Absent or not voting: None.
Total 0

SECOND READING OF BILLS
(COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

Majority Leader Tschida moved the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for consideration of business on second reading. Motion carried. Representative R. Knudsen in the chair.

Mr. Speaker: We, your Committee of the Whole, having had under consideration business on second reading, recommend as follows:

HB 27 - Representative Funk moved HB 27 do pass. Motion carried as follows:

Yeas: Abbott, Anderson, Bachmeier, Bahr, Ballance, Beard, Bedey, Berglee, Bessette, Bishop, Brown Z, Burnett, Caferro, Curdy, Custer, Dooling, Dudik, Dunwell, Farris-Olsen, Fern,
HB 54 - Representative Peppers moved HB 54 do pass.

HB 54 - Representative Mercer moved HB 54, second reading copy, be amended as follows:

1. Title, page 1, line 6.
   Following: "REQUIRING ALL"
   Insert: "STATE, COUNTY, AND MUNICIPAL"

2. Page 1, line 11.
   Following: "All"
   Insert: "state, county, and municipal"

3. Page 1, line 12.
   Strike: "in the state"

4. Page 1, line 26 through 27.
   Strike: "intends the phrase" on line 26 through "that the legislature" on line 27
   Insert: "recognizes that it"

5. Page 1, line 28.
   Following: "compliance"
   Insert: "with this section"
   Strike: "the legislature"
   Insert: "but it"
   Following: "law enforcement authorities"
Insert: ", including federal and tribal employees,"

6. Page 2, line 11 through line 12.
Strike: "intends the phrase" on line 11 through "that the legislature" on line 12
Insert: "recognizes that it"

Following: "compliance"
Insert: "with this part"
Strike: "the legislature"
Insert: "but it"
Following: "law enforcement authorities"
Insert: ", including federal and tribal employees,"

8. Page 2, line 17.
Following: "municipal"
Insert: "state, county, and municipal"

Strike: "in the state"

Following: line 26
Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 4. Notification to federal government. The secretary of state shall send a copy of [this act] to the director of the federal bureau of investigation and the assistant secretary of Indian affairs at the United States department of the interior."
Renumber: subsequent sections

Amendment adopted as follows:

Total 100

Nays: None.
Total 0
HB 54 - Representative Peppers moved HB 54, as amended, do pass. Motion carried as follows:


Total 100

Nays: None.

Total 0

HB 57 - Representative Z. Brown moved HB 57 do pass. Motion carried as follows:


Total 91
Nays: Berglee, Doane, Duram, Galt, Glimm, Kassmier, Knudsen C, Zolnikov, Mr. Speaker.
Total 9

Voted absentee: None.

Excused: None.
Total 0

Absent or not voting: None.
Total 0

HB 70 - Representative Shaw moved HB 70 do pass. Motion carried as follows:

Total 100

Nays: None.
Total 0

Voted absentee: None.

Excused: None.
Total 0

Absent or not voting: None.
Total 0

HB 158 - Representative Peppers moved HB 158 do pass. Motion carried as follows:


Total 94

Total 6

Voted absentee: None.

Excused: None.
Total 0

Absent or not voting: None.
Total 0

HB 220 - Representative W. Sales moved HB 220 do pass. Motion carried as follows:

Total 98

Nays: Glimm.
Total 1

Voted absentee: None.

Excused: None.
Total 0

Absent or not voting: Sales.
Total 1

HB 247 - Representative Grubbs moved HB 247 do pass. Motion carried as follows:

Yeas: Abbott, Anderson, Bachmeier, Bahr, Ballance, Beard, Bedey, Berglee, Bessette, Bishop, Brown Z, Buttrey, Caferro, Curdy, Custer, Dooling, Dudik, Dunn, Dunwell, Duram, Farris-Olsen,
HB 268 - Representative Greef moved HB 268 do pass.

HB 268 - Representative Farris-Olsen moved HB 268, second reading copy, be amended as follows:

1. Page 1, line 26.
   **Following:** "Stay."
   **Strike:** "The"
   **Insert:** "(1) Except as provided in subsection (2), the"

2. Page 1, line 29.
   **Insert:** "(2) Except when good cause exists, the district court may not grant a stay if the court has reason to suspect that one of the parties or a child of a party has been physically, sexually, or emotionally abused by the other party."

Amendment not adopted as follows:

Total 44
Total  56

Voted absentee: None.

Excused: None.
Total  0

Absent or not voting: None.
Total  0

HB 268 - Representative Greef moved HB 268 do pass. Motion carried as follows:

Total  60

Total  40

Voted absentee: None.

Excused: None.
Total  0

Absent or not voting: None.
Total  0

HB 282 - Representative Loge moved HB 282 do pass. Motion carried as follows:

Total  96

Total  3

Voted absentee: None.
Excused: None.
Total  0

Absent or not voting: Dooling.
Total  1

HJR 4 - Representative Read moved HJR 4 do pass. Motion carried as follows:

Total  73

Total  27

Voted absentee: None.
Excused: None.
Total  0

Absent or not voting: None.
Total  0
Majority Leader Tschida moved the Committee rise and report. Motion carried. Committee arose. House resumed. Mr. Speaker presiding. Chair R. Knudsen moved the Committee of the Whole report be adopted. Report adopted as follows:

Total 92

Nays: Hamilton, Karjala, Knudsen R.
Total 3

Voted absentee: None.

Excused: Dooling.
Total 1

Absent or not voting: Bartel, Grubbs, Holmlund, Krautter.
Total 4

**MOTIONS**

Majority Leader Tschida moved to re-refer **HB 27** to the Appropriations Committee. Without objection, so ordered.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mr. Speaker, I move that the following undersigned name be **ADDED** as sponsor to **HB 146**.
Motion carried.

**HB 146** (K. Holmlund, Chief Sponsor)
D. Bedey.

Mr. Speaker, I move that the following undersigned name be **ADDED** as sponsor to **HB 147**.
Motion carried.

**HB 147** (K. Holmlund, Chief Sponsor)
D. Bedey.
Mr. Speaker, I move that the following undersigned name be **ADDED** as sponsor to **HB 219**.
Motion carried.

**HB 219** (S. Morigeau, Chief Sponsor)
J. Small.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Committee meetings were announced by the committee chairs.

Majority Leader Tschida moved the House adjourn until 1:00 p.m., Friday, February 8, 2019. Motion carried.

House adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

LINDSEY VROEGINDEWEY GREG HERTZ
Chief Clerk of the House Speaker of the House