



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPONSOR'S REBUTTAL TO FISCAL NOTE

House Bill Number: HB 277

Date Prepared: February 11, 2021

Short Title: Provide for a State Government Performance and Results Act:

Sponsor: Rep. Mercer

Generally, why do you disagree with the fiscal note?

The bill requires covered governmental entities to meet the requirements of the bill out of existing resources. There will be no fiscal impact.

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

I agree with parts of the fiscal note. First, the majority of departments indicate an ability and willingness to meet the requirements of the bill out of existing resources. This is consistent with what Section D Subcommittee has heard from the Department of Corrections, which has developed a strategic plan and performance measures over the last two years without an additional appropriation from the Legislature. I also agree with the observation that departments may need to redeploy existing resources to meet the requirements of the bill, but this can be done with existing resources, as is recognized by most of the departments.

I disagree with the estimate of general fund expenditures to implement the bill between the beginning of FY 22 and the end of FY 25. First, as noted above, the bill requires departments to meet the requirements out of existing resources. Moreover, the numbers themselves are not realistic. DOT claims that it would need a half million in initial resources and DOJ is calling for nearly \$ 100,000 in FY 22. DOJ should have minimal costs because its components have already developed operating and strategic plans. DOT's number cannot be taken seriously given the calculations made by other departments.

What is your estimate of the fiscal impact?

There will be no fiscal impact.

Sponsor Signature: _____

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Whur", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial letter.