



MONTANA LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Legislative Fiscal Division

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Director
AMY CARLSON

DATE: March 31, 2020
TO: Montana Legislative Leadership and Fiscal Leadership
FROM: Amy Carlson, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
RE: COVID-19 Fiscal Update

The Legislative Fiscal Division is preparing to have monthly reports on the fiscal impact of COVID-19. The outline below illustrates the topics that we currently understand to be of interest to the legislature. This format will change as more information becomes available and as we better understand the topics of interest to the legislature.

COVID-19 Fiscal Report - proposed to be published between the 10th and the 15th of each month

The report will give legislators a summary of revenue, expenditure, budget and expenditure pressures for state and local governments. The first report in early to mid-April will be limited to General Fund revenue and an outline of Federal legislation, all other sections will only be described, but will have no data in April.

1. Revenue
 - a. General Fund
 - b. Select State Special or other funds
2. Federal legislation (see attached)
3. Cash and future cash forecasts
 - a. General Fund
 - b. Budget Stabilization Reserve Fund (BSRF)
 - c. Fire Fund
4. Budget Changes
 - a. Budget amend federal funds
 - b. Moving state funds
 - c. Statutory Appropriations
5. Expenditures by fund type and agency/program
6. Medicaid enrollment tracking
7. Unemployment Insurance enrollment, benefits distributed
8. Local governments – determine what data is available
9. Schools – determine what data is available

The revenue section of the proposed report would be like the typical monthly LFD revenue publications, with an added emphasis of impacts from COVID-19 and include selected state special funds. The federal legislation section would include a table similar to the table produced with this memo. It will track federal legislation and the impact of federal legislation on state and local budgets.

The table included with this memo was developed with information from the Federal Fiscal Information for the States (FFIS), National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), conversations with the offices of both

Montana U.S. Senators, and various state agencies. The LFD will continue to stay connected to these sources and are working on scheduling regular updates from the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning.