

THE SUPREME COURT OF MONTANA

MIKE McGRATH
CHIEF JUSTICE



JUSTICE BUILDING
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April 16, 2018

Representative Nancy Ballance
Chairwoman
Legislative Finance Committee
State Capital Building
Helena, MT 59601

RE: Supplemental Appropriation – HB2 Reductions November 2017 Special Session

Dear Representative Ballance:

In accordance with Title 17, chapter 7, part 3, MCA, I am asking for review and comment of proposed supplemental appropriations to transfer Judicial Branch FY2019 authority to FY2018. The Judicial Branch requests were included in a March 8, 2018 letter from Budget Director Dan Villa. As the Branch's approving authority, I am sending this letter as our direct request.

Please see page two of the budget director's letter for specific details of the Judicial Branch's request. Reductions were made in two programs that were not part of the voluntary reductions offered by the Judicial Branch during the special session. As stated in Mr. Villa's letter, mitigation will occur by reverting the funding in the Sentencing Commission and WINGS programs as originally proposed by the Judicial Branch.

I, too, would reiterate the request to allow OBPP to correct these issues when developing the new base budgets for the 2021 biennium.

Specific questions about this request can be directed to the Beth McLaughlin, the court administrator.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike McGrath", is written over a white background.

Mike McGrath
Chief Justice

MM:lkc