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Governor Steve Bullock Delivers State of State Address, Emphasizes Continued Responsible Fiscal Management, Critical Investments in Education, Health, Infrastructure

Helena, Mont.—Governor Steve Bullock tonight delivered his biannual State of the State address to a joint session of the Montana legislature, where he told those in attendance that the state of the state is strong. During his remarks, he highlighted the successes Montana is currently enjoying, including historic job creation, responsible state fiscal management, responsible resource development, and Montana public schools that are equipping students to succeed.

“My fellow Montanans, our state is strong. But I see us getting stronger,” Bullock said, expressing confidence in the future of Montana. “I see a Montana—shaped by our values—that daily reminds us why we choose to call her home. A Montana that we’ll be proud to pass on to our kids and grandkids. A Montana they’ll be proud to inherit.”

He laid out a roadmap for accomplishing this goal by:

1. Maintaining our state’s record of fiscal discipline;
2. Laying a foundation for a better future by investing in infrastructure, workforce and our youth;
3. Taking on challenging issues head-on to preserve and add certainty in Montana.

Specifically, Bullock repeated his requirement that the state maintain a \$300 million rainy day fund, noting that during the federal government shutdown, when other states had to furlough employees, Montana did not have to cut services or resort to layoffs. In addition, he pointed out that since 1990, Montana’s ending fund balance fell below this \$300 million mark 16 times, in half of these times a special session of the legislature was required.

Bullock also encouraged lawmakers to make critical investments in the areas of infrastructure, job creation, education, and health care. In addition, he made the case for proposals to pass the Flathead Water Compact, close the gender pay gap and restore transparency and accountability to Montana elections.

A transcript of Bullock's remarks as prepared is available [HERE](#).

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