



Health Advisory Commission

Senator Bob Keenan
Senator Carl Glimm
Senator Mary McNally

Representative Frank Garner, Chair
Representative Matt Regier
Representative Terry Moore
Representative Mary Caferro

Adam Meier, DPHHS Director, Vice Chair
Anita Milanovich, General Counsel
Charlie Brereton, Policy Advisor

August 30, 2021

Director Adam Meier
Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services
PO Box 200801
Helena, MT 59602-0801

Dear Director Meier,

The Health Advisory Commission met on August 25, 2021 to consider American Rescue Plan Act funds allocated to the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. Pursuant to HB 632, the Commission makes the following recommendations:

1. Child Care and Development Block Grant Supplemental Funding, American Rescue Plan Act Section 2201

Allocate \$42,477,481 for expanded child care and development block grant uses to include no more than 5 percent for administrative use: to fund innovative solution grants; to provide targeted business specialized training, professional development and technical support to early childhood small businesses; to implement business process and regulation improvement recommendations; to pilot CCR&R services in Northeastern/Eastern Montana; to provide temporary child care assistance prioritized for certain health care sector employees; and for direct workforce supports for staff in child care facilities.

2. Pandemic Emergency Assistance Funds

Allocate \$2,733,901 in Pandemic Emergency Assistance Funds to provide one-time payments to individuals in SNAP households with minor children who have become gainfully employed or increased their employment for a period of at least twelve full consecutive weeks.

3. Detection and Mitigation of COVID-19 in Confinement Facilities Funding

Allocate \$2,450,000 to DPHHS to provide support, equipment, resources, and supplies to confinement facilities for the detection and mitigation of COVID-19, to the extent allowed under all applicable laws, regulations, and guidance.

4. Provider Rate Study

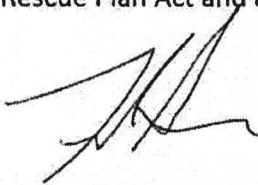
Allocate to the Department of Public Health and Human Services up to \$2.75 million for a provider rate study pursuant to HB 632.

5. Nursing Facility Payments

Allocate to the Department of Public Health and Human Services up to \$15 million for nursing home and hospital-based swing bed payments pursuant to Section 20 Subsection (6) of HB 632.

The Commission certifies that this proposal presently qualifies for funding pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act and all available guidance.

Sincerely,



Representative Frank Garner
Health Advisory Commission Chair