State of Montana Office of the Governor



Executive Order No. 11-98

EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING THE MONTANA RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, it is the policy and goal of the State of Montana under Title 90, Chapter 3, MCA to encourage scientific and technological development within the State in order to keep pace with a changing economic structure and to create new jobs and expand business opportunities; and

WHEREAS, research into new technologies is a major component of the State's economic development strategy; and

WHEREAS, the development of new technology and its application has been viewed as critical to the long-range economic and social welfare of the State and nation; and

WHEREAS, academic studies, human resource development, and economic goals can be integrated through research and technology development; and

WHEREAS, the State must contribute funds to match those from other sources in order to participate in certain federal and other research and development programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARC RACICOT, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the

Constitution and laws of the State of Montana, do hereby create the Montana Research and Development Task Force (Task Force).

I. <u>PURPOSE</u>

The Task Force shall:

- A. Recommend to the Governor a plan that will support the State's goals of strengthening and diversifying Montana's economy through an investment in research and development activities. The plan will include at least the following provisions:
 - 1. A structure, organization, or other device that will:
 - a. develop and implement a state research and development plan;
 - b. provide long-term administration of the plan;
 - c. oversee distribution of funds to eligible organizations for qualified projects;
 - d. provide accountability to Montana's taxpayers; and
 - e. counsel the Legislature and Executive Branch .
 on matters of research and development.
 - 2. A determination of the source and amount of funds to support the purposes of the structure, organization, or device recommended in I.A.1. for the 2001 biennium.
- B. Recommend to the Governor a plan for the future of the Montana Science and Technology Alliance, management of assets held by the Montana Science and Technology Alliance,

and the disposition of loan and other payments made to the Montana Science and Technology Alliance.

II. COMPOSITION

The Task Force shall be comprised of not more than fifteen members appointed by the Governor. The names and addresses of the members, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor, are submitted by separate letter to the Secretary of State. The Chairman shall also be appointed by the Governor.

III. ADMINISTRATION

The Task Force shall be attached to the Department of Commerce for administrative purposes.

IV. COMPENSATION

The Task Force members eligible for compensation under Section 2-15-122(5), MCA, shall be compensated through the Department of Commerce for each day actually and necessarily engaged in the performance of Task Force duties. All members, who are not full-time state employees shall be reimbursed for travel expenses, pursuant to Section 2-15-122(5), MCA.

V. <u>DURATION</u>

The Task Force shall exist until June 30, 1999, unless extended by subsequent Executive Order.

This Order shall be effective immediately.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana, this day of July, 1998.

MARC RACICOT, Governor

ATTEST:

MIKE COONEY, Secretary of State