## State of Montana Office of the Governor

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## Executive Order No. 16-94

EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING THE GOVERNOR'S HIV/AIDS ADVISORY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), the virus that causes Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), claims a life in the United States every fifteen minutes, is the leading cause of death for men between the ages 25-44 and the fourth leading cause of death for women between the ages of 25-44; and

WHEREAS, Montana State Government has a significant interest in protecting the public health; and

WHEREAS, Montana has both the opportunity and the obligation to provide a constructive response to this HIV epidemic; and

WHEREAS, such a response necessarily requires the commitment and resources of all levels of government coupled with a firm partnership with the private sector in order to effectively stem the spread of this disease; and

WHEREAS, the 1994 "Report to the Governor: Montana

Responds to HIV/AIDS" and previous AIDS advisory councils have recommended the multiplicity of issues that transcend the singular responsibility of any one state agency; and

WHEREAS, the need for an advisory and leadership mechanism is critical for an effective and publicly supported response to a very serious public health issue.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARC RACICOT, Governor of the State of Montana, by the authority vested in me by Article VI, Section 4 of the Montana Constitution, and Section 2-15-201, MCA, do hereby establish the Governor's HIV/AIDS Advisory Council.

## I. PURPOSE

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The Council shall:

14 provide the leadership required to recommend Α. 15 public policy that assures the initiation, 16 coordination, promotion, implementation and evaluation 17 of services and activities that can effectively arrest the spread of the HIV infection and provide humane 18 19 treatment for those that are or become infected; and specifically review the document entitled "A 20 в. 21 Report the Governor: Montana Responds to HIV/AIDS" and 22 to focus their initial efforts on responding to the 23 recommendations contained therein.

II. <u>DUTIES</u>

The Department of Health and Environmental Sciences shall organize Regional HIV Prevention Community Planning

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groups according to the Governor's Health Planning Districts and in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control's HIV Prevention Community Planning process guidance. These regional planning groups shall submit recommendations for a comprehensive Montana HIV prevention plan to the Council for review.

III. COMPOSITION

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The names and addresses of members who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor are submitted by separate letter to the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences and the Secretary of State. Staff support shall be provided by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences.

This Order is effective immediately.

Given under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana, this  $18^{12}$  day of August , 1994.

MARC RACICOT, Governor

TTEST: of Secretary State IKE COONEY,

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