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State of Montana
Office of the Governor



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Executive Order No. 18-98

EXECUTIVE ORDER CONTINUING 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

1 singular responsibility of any one state agency; and

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

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

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10 I. PURPOSE

11 The Council shall provide the leadership required to
12 recommend public policy to the Governor and Department Directors
13 that assures the initiation, coordination, promotion,
14 implementation and evaluation of services and activities that
15 can effectively arrest the spread of the HIV infection and
16 provide humane treatment for those that are or become infected.

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18 II. DUTIES

19 The Department of Public Health and Human Services shall
20 organize Regional HIV Prevention Community Planning groups
21 according to the Governor's Health Planning Districts and in
22 accordance with the Centers for Disease Control's HIV Prevention
23 Community Planning process guidance. These regional planning
24 groups shall submit recommendations for a comprehensive Montana
25 HIV prevention plan to the Council for review & response.

26 The Council shall meet regularly at the call of its Chair
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to seek information, discuss strategies to fulfill its purpose and act in its discretion to carry out the decisions it reaches.

III. COMPOSITION

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

IV. DURATION

The Council shall exist for a period of two years from the effective date of this Order unless extended by subsequent Executive Order.

This Order is effective immediately.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana, this 23rd day of November, 1998.

Marc Racicot
MARC RACICOT, Governor

ATTEST:

Mike Cooney
MIKE COONEY, Secretary of State