



MOTOR CARRIERS of Montana

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November 13, 2017

The Honorable Nancy Balance Chair
Members of the House Appropriations Committee

RE; HB 1

Madam chair and members of the committee the Motor Carriers of Montana would like to let you know of our displeasure with the transfer of 8 Million dollars of Unrestricted MDT money to the General fund.

It was just a few months ago when MDT and the governor's budget office said we had no money and needed to cancel projects because there were no funds. They cried that we need an increase in the fuel tax and the trucking industry needs to support it. We did. Now my members are saying we should have known that they would find some other way to use what should be maintenance dollars and some construction dollars to the General fund.

Frankly the Department and Administration have misled the taxpayers of this state with the old bait and switch. Passage of this provision in the bill will virtually guarantee that MCM members will never again believe the department or support a fuel tax.

We respectfully ask that this transfer be removed from the bill to restore the taxpayer trust in the legislature and government in general.

Sincerely

Spook Stang
Executive Vice President
Motor Carriers of Montana