



---

PO Box 201800 1515 East 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue Helena, MT 59620 (406) 444-3115

January 4, 2021

Dear Legislators,

On behalf of the Montana State Library, welcome to the 2021 legislative session. We want to thank our Montana Legislators, Governor Gianforte and his staff, the staff of legislative and executive branch agencies, and the citizens of Montana for your hard work to advance the needs of Montana, especially now, as our state faces unprecedented challenges due to the pandemic.

The Montana State Library is a small and unique agency. We employ not only librarians, but also geographers and natural resource specialists, and we partner with botanists, zoologists and ecologists. We work closely with federal and state agencies as well as local and tribal governments. We manage an enormous collection of state government information in all formats, keeping Montanans informed about the work of their government. And we ensure that Montana's blind and print-disabled citizens have access to reading materials and information. We also work on behalf of all of Montana's libraries to help them provide the latest and best information, technology, and library services to their patrons – your constituents – whether it's downloadable ebooks, public access computers, online information resources, or Wi-Fi hot spots.

The State Library is committed to providing the Legislature and all your constituents with authoritative information about the topics of highest concern to Montanans. Though the physical State Library is currently closed, the State Library had already transformed into a 21<sup>st</sup> century digital information hub, and all of our information resources and services are available to you 24 hours a day, seven days a week at [msl.mt.gov](http://msl.mt.gov). Additionally, our staff of information professionals are ready to assist you with your information needs.

Through excellent library resources and services, the Montana State Library helps Montanans create thriving organizations, communities, and lives. Despite the pandemic, Montanans will remain informed and active participants in the 2021 legislative session. We take great pride in the knowledge that our work truly makes a difference.

I look forward to working with you in the coming months.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennie Stapp".

Jennie Stapp  
State Librarian