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Media Release

Billings Chamber of Commerce Releases 2015 Public Policy Manual; Priority Issues

For Immediate Release

Billings, MT, September 10, 2014: The Billings Chamber of Commerce, in preparation for the 2015 Legislative Session, releases the 2015 Public Policy Manual. The manual serves as a guiding document for staff and lobbyists during the session, as well as for other local and federal policy issues.

"This manual compiles our research and feedback from Chamber members," says Bruce MacIntyre, Director of Business Advocacy and Government Affairs. "We collaborate with the City, County, School District 2, other leading community organizations and eastern Montana communities to establish our areas of focus. The issues we address represent the best interests of small business, a growing community, and the industries that drive our economy."

Some of the priority issues we'll follow and address include:

- Funding for 19 year old K-12 students
- School Board Elections
- Regional Energy Development
- Expansion of Medicaid
- Local Option Taxing Authority/Expansion of the Resort Tax
- Business Equipment Tax
- Tax Increment Finance and Business Improvement Districts
- Public Safety (including public intoxication, additional funding for mental health centers, and a satellite crime lab).

Topics included in the manual are agriculture, education, energy, healthcare, taxation, transportation/managed growth, travel and tourism, and workforce/business development. To view the entire manual, [click here](#). To follow these issues and the Chamber's work on them, visit our website: <http://PublicPolicy.BillingsChamber.com>.

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Advocate. Connect. Grow.

The Billings Chamber of Commerce represents you, our 1,200 members who employ more than 44,000 people. We help you grow your bottom line by connecting you to opportunities and advocating for your business and our community.