

NEWS RELEASE
GOVERNOR STEVE BULLOCK
STATE OF MONTANA

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Bullock, Curtis Propose Hire Montanans First Act

HELENA – Governor Steve Bullock and Rep. Amanda Curtis (D – Butte) joined business leaders and workers at the Capitol Wednesday morning to announce House Bill 490, the Hire Montanans First Act.

“This morning, I ask legislators to join Rep. Amanda Curtis and me to pass this important measure so we can put more money into the hands of Montana businesses and create more jobs for Montana workers,” Bullock said. “It’s just common sense – when taxpayer money is funding a project, let’s ensure our tax dollars hire Montanans first.”

The legislation sponsored by Rep. Curtis at the request of the Governor, proposes to increase the required proportion of Montana workers on state and locally funded contracts to 75 percent, and to expand this requirement to all projects, not just construction. HB 490 increases the proportion of Montana workers required on any state or locally funded project from 50 to 75 percent.

“When I ran for the legislature, I told my friends and my neighbors in Butte that I wanted to go to Helena to create good-paying jobs that can support a family,” Rep. Curtis said. “I’ve already received a great amount of support for this proposal from my colleagues and I look forward to sitting with Governor Bullock when he signs HB 490 into law.”

HB 490 will be heard in the House Business and Labor Committee at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 21. Further information about the status of HB 490 is available [here](#).

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