

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF MONTANA

BRIAN SCHWEITZER
GOVERNOR



JOHN BOHLINGER
LT. GOVERNOR

April 2, 2009

Peter R. Orszag, Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Director Orszag:

Under Montana law, federal funds available to our state under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act ("ARRA") cannot be spent without an appropriation for their expenditure by the Montana Legislature. The Legislature has given strong indication of its intent to appropriate ARRA funds to create jobs and promote economic growth in Montana through House Joint Resolution 33, requesting and accepting ARRA funds, which received final approval yesterday. See <http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/2009/billhtml/HJ0033.htm>. Consequently, I submit the following certification to you.

As Governor of the State of Montana, I hereby certify that: (1) the State of Montana will request and use funds provided by the ARRA; and (2) the funds will be used to create jobs and promote economic growth.

I will continue to monitor the Legislature's enactment of laws appropriating ARRA funds and reserve the right to reject the federal funds in the event that the Legislature's appropriations are not consistent with the intent of ARRA, including state fiscal stabilization.

Please direct any questions or requests concerning this certification to my Budget Director, David Ewer, at (406) 444-3616 or dewer@mt.gov. Thanks to you and President Obama for your assistance to the citizens of Montana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Schweitzer".

BRIAN SCHWEITZER
Governor