

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

In the matter of the amendment of ) NOTICE OF AMENDMENT  
ARM 2.59.104 pertaining to )  
semiannual assessment for banks )

TO: All Concerned Persons

1. On March 8, 2012, the Department of Administration published MAR Notice No. 2-59-470 pertaining to the proposed amendment of the above-stated rule at page 460 of the 2012 Montana Administrative Register, Issue Number 5.

2. The department has amended the above-stated rule exactly as proposed.

3. The department has thoroughly considered the comments received. A summary of the comments received and the department's responses follow:

COMMENT #1: The Montana Independent Bankers Association (MIB) commented that it strongly supports the amendment.

RESPONSE #1: The department appreciates the MIB's support.

COMMENT #2: MIB's membership urges the department to keep the assessment at one-half the prior rate as long as is fiscally responsible.

RESPONSE #2: As stated in the notice of proposed amendment, this is a one-time 50% reduction in the semiannual assessment for banks. As also stated in the notice, the department is expecting a significant change in the number of state-chartered banks in calendar year 2012 and will be reviewing the assessment rates after the impact of that change is known. The department expects to propose a permanent downward revision in the semiannual assessment for banks after anticipated changes in the banking industry occur and the effect of those changes can be determined.

By: /s/ Janet R. Kelly  
Janet R. Kelly, Director  
Department of Administration

By: /s/ Michael P. Manion  
Michael P. Manion, Rule Reviewer  
Department of Administration

Certified to the Secretary of State, April 16, 2012.