

May 18-19, 2022

**ITEM 200-2010-R0522**

**Request for Authorization to Program, Plan and Design a Building to House the Gianforte School of Computing and Computing-Related Fields; Montana State University**

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**THAT**

Consistent with the Board's authority to manage and control the Montana University System, BOR Policy 1003.7, and MCA 20-25-302 (6)(a), the Board of Regents authorizes Montana State University to expend up to \$5,000,000 for planning, programming, design and associated pre-construction activities for a new facility at MSU.

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**EXPLANATION**

1. Montana State University (MSU) received a \$50 million donation from the Gianforte Family Foundation to construct a new building on the Bozeman campus to house the Gianforte School of Computing and computing-related fields such as cybersecurity, optics and photonics, electrical and computer engineering and creative industries.
  2. The computing program currently has faculty and staff distributed across five buildings. A consolidated facility will improve collaboration among colleagues and improve student access to faculty and support services.
  3. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects 22% employment growth in computer and information research science between 2022 and 2030. A new purpose-built facility will help MSU and the State of Montana respond to this market demand.
  4. The facility will be designed to support interdisciplinary collaboration and access across broad academic branches of the University.
  5. This request is for planning, design and pre-construction only to define the project scope and develop plans for a new facility.
  6. MSU will request additional construction authority once initial planning and design phases are complete.
  7. This work will be paid for using private donations.
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**ATTACHMENTS**

None