

Jon Tester United States Senator for Montana

Home Meet Jon About Montana Services Resources Newsroom **Legislation** Contact

Featured Legislation | Accomplishments | Senate Record | Committees | Appropriations

Financial Services and General Government

These Montana projects will help invest in our state's small businesses by providing financial training and access to capital. Our small businesses and entrepreneurs are what drive our state's economy, and these programs will help them grow and succeed.

Information about each project was provided by the requesting entity. Amounts requested are not guaranteed; funds secured are likely to differ from the requested amount. Senator Tester's appropriation requests to the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee for Fiscal Year 2011 are listed below.

[United States Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government](#)

Downtown Whitehall Fire Recovery Project

Jefferson Local Development Corporation
Whitehall, MT
\$250,000

This project will establish a revolving loan fund to bolster small business development and ensure that the explosion in the downtown business district last year will not compound the effects of the slowing economy and lead to a downward spiral of the Whitehall economy.

Financial Preparation for Postsecondary Education

Student Assistance Foundation
Helena, MT
\$500,000

Funds will pay for licensing fees for up to 20,000 students to utilize the Grad Ready suite of student financial literacy tools in Montana. This will prepare students and help them understand financial aid, in-school finances and repayment; enable the program to reach more students in more places with 24/7 access; and help students to make smart decisions with their money.

Government Contractor Revolving Loan Fund

Big Sky Economic Development Authority
Billings, MT
\$2,000,000

This project will provide intermediate financing for contractors who work on a government project and find themselves financing the project for the government for at least 30 days and even longer while waiting for progress payments. The fund will be used to provide initial ramp-up monies that manufacturers and other contractors typically expect when taking on a customer project.

HTAP: High-Technology Assistance Program for Micro and Nano-Technologies

Montana State University
Bozeman, MT
\$1,000,000

This program will assist Montana high-technology businesses in adopting micro and nanotechnologies as a means of improving their products and increasing their competitiveness. The program will offer training, access to the specialized facilities of the Montana Microfabrication Facility and technical assistance to regional businesses, enhancing the nanotechnology infrastructure of the Rocky Mountain region.

RP Loan Fund Equity

Get E-mail Updates

[Click here to sign up](#) for Senator Tester's e-mail newsletter to keep up to date on his work for Montana.

Latest News

8/31/12 [Tester statement on next step to expand Billings VA Clinic](#)

[Press Release Archive...](#)

Schedule

August 30, 2012

7:45 a.m.
Press Interview

[View Schedule Archive...](#)



Senator Jon Tester on
Facebook

[Like](#) 6,096

[Wildfire Resources](#)

[Drought Resources](#)

[Small Business Opportunity Workshop](#)

[Veterans and Military Families](#)

[Forest Jobs and Recreation Act](#)

[Protecting Seniors](#)

High Plains Financial Inc.

Great Falls, MT

\$125,000

Funds will be used to provide gap financing options to small business throughout the Sweetgrass Development Region in north-central Montana and allow High Plains Financial to be a permanent Certified Development Company. The fund to date has made eight loans in the five-county Sweetgrass Development Area, creating 8 jobs in rural north-central Montana and sustaining many more. These same loans have leveraged \$1,497,670 in capital investment in Montana and increased the tax base for the communities and counties in which they are located.

TechRanch Regional Innovation Partnerships

TechRanch

Bozeman, MT

\$1,600,000

Funding will help establish five regional offices that will better serve entrepreneurs, innovators, students and small business owners; develop stronger programs for key economic clusters and generate fees to become more sustainable. A regional office in Billings would focus on health care and energy, while one in Great Falls would focus on agriculture and biofuels.

[Home](#) [Meet Jon](#) [About Montana](#) [Services](#) [Resources](#) [Newsroom](#) [Legislation](#) [Contact](#)