



THE CITY-COUNTY OF Butte-Silver Bow

Office of the Chief Executive

J.P. Gallagher, Chief Executive

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Emergency Proclamation: Loss of SNAP Benefits in Butte-Silver Bow and Emergency Millage

Butte-Silver Bow, Montana

WHEREAS, pursuant to Title 10, Chapter 3, Part 4 of the Montana Code Annotated (§§ 10-3-401 through 10-3-406), the governing body of a political subdivision is authorized to declare the existence of a local emergency and to take certain emergency actions, including levying an emergency millage when the emergency is beyond the financial capability of the political subdivision; and

WHEREAS, J.P. Gallagher the Chief Executive Officer of the City/County of Butte-Silver Bow, has determined that a local emergency exists as a result of the **sudden disruption and loss of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits** affecting residents of Butte-Silver Bow; and

WHEREAS, this loss of SNAP benefits has created **immediate peril to the health, safety, and welfare** of vulnerable residents, including children, seniors, and low-income households, who rely on these benefits for daily nutrition and food security; and

WHEREAS, the disruption in benefits has placed extraordinary strain on local food banks, senior centers, shelters, and other human service providers within Butte-Silver Bow and existing budgeted resources are insufficient to meet the increased demand for emergency food, outreach, and related social services; and

WHEREAS, Montana Code Annotated § 10-3-405 authorizes the governing body of a city, town, or county to estimate expenditures and **levy up to two (2) mills** on the taxable valuation of the jurisdiction to provide funds to meet emergency expenditures arising from a declared emergency; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, J.P. Gallagher, in my capacity as the Chief Executive Officer of the City/County of Butte-Silver Bow, do hereby proclaim as follows:

1. **Proclamation of Emergency.** A local emergency is hereby declared to exist in City/County of Butte-Silver Bow, Montana, arising from the disruption and loss of SNAP benefits impacting residents of this jurisdiction.
2. **Scope and Area.** This emergency affects all areas within City/County of Butte-Silver Bow where residents depend upon federal nutrition benefits or related food assistance services.
3. **Conditions Creating the Emergency.** The conditions constituting this emergency include the abrupt loss of federally administered food assistance (SNAP) benefits, placing



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thousands of individuals and families at risk of hunger, food insecurity, and associated health and safety impacts.

4. **Activation of Local Emergency Plan.** This proclamation activates applicable portions of the City/County emergency operations plan and authorizes coordination with state and federal agencies, local nonprofits, and community partners to provide emergency food assistance, outreach, and logistical support.
5. **Emergency Millage Levy.**
The governing body of the City/County of Butte-Silver Bow estimates emergency expenditures in the amount of **\$183,974** necessary to address immediate food assistance and relief needs.
Pursuant to § 10-3-405, MCA, the governing body shall levy an emergency millage of **2.000 mills** on the taxable valuation of the City/County for the year 2025-2026.
The proceeds of this levy shall be placed in a separate "Emergency Fund" and may be expended only for purposes directly related to this emergency, including emergency food distribution, logistical coordination, outreach to affected residents, and related administrative costs.
6. **Public Dissemination and Filing.** This proclamation shall be disseminated promptly to the public via official website, local media, and postings at public buildings, and shall be filed with the Butte-Silver Bow Clerk and Recorder as required by § 10-3-404, MCA.
7. **Termination.** This proclamation shall remain in effect until such time as the Chief Executive Officer determines that the emergency conditions no longer exist or it is superseded by a disaster declaration pursuant to § 10-3-403, MCA.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City/County of Butte-Silver Bow to be affixed this 5th day of November 2025.

J.P. Gallagher
Chief Executive Officer
Butte-Silver Bow, Montana



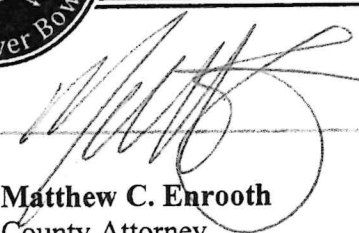
ATTEST:

Cindy Sherman
Clerk & Recorder
Butte-Silver Bow, Montana

ATTEST:



THE CITY-COUNTY OF Butte-Silver Bow



Matthew C. Enrooth
County Attorney
Butte-Silver Bow, Montana