

# Making **KIDS COUNT** in the 2019 Legislative Session

House District 5 Rep. Dave Fern



| POPULATION         | District | State     |
|--------------------|----------|-----------|
| Total population   | 10,761   | 1,029,862 |
| Children ages 0-4  | 631      | 61,218    |
| Children ages 5-17 | 1,064    | 164,940   |
| Median age         | 44       | 40        |



| ECONOMIC WELL-BEING   | District | State    |
|---|----------|----------|
| Median household income (2017\$)                                    | \$51,716 | \$50,801 |
| Children in poverty (<100% FPL) <sup>§</sup>                        | 11%      | 18%      |
| Children ages 0-18 who have public health insurance                 | 28%      | 38%      |
| Tax return filers who would qualify for a state EITC <sup>1§§</sup> | 909      | 76,267   |



| SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION                           | District | State   |
|---|----------|---------|
| Preschool-aged children NOT enrolled in school  | 56%      | 60%     |
| Children enrolled in grades K-12                | 1,069    | 162,262 |
| Graduation rate, all students <sup>2</sup>      | N/A      | 86%     |
| Graduation rate, disabled students <sup>2</sup> | N/A      | 77%     |



| SAFETY  | State |
|---|-------|
| High school students texting/emailing while driving <sup>3</sup>        | 54%   |
| High school students talking on a cell phone while driving <sup>3</sup> | 57%   |
| High school students driving after drinking alcohol <sup>3</sup>        | 8%    |
| Traffic crash fatalities and incapacitating injuries <sup>4</sup>       | 917   |

**The best way to ensure that children get ahead is to make sure that they never fall behind.**

Sources: Data source is the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, unless otherwise noted.

<sup>1</sup> Earned Income Tax Credit; Brookings Institution.

<sup>2</sup> 2018, Montana Office of Public Instruction.

<sup>3</sup> 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, OPI; High school students who have engaged in behavior on at least one occasion during the past 30 days.

<sup>4</sup> 2017, Montana Department of Transportation.

<sup>§</sup> Below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level;

\$20,420 for a family of 3 in 2017.

<sup>§§</sup> Tax return filers who currently qualify for the federal EITC.

\*\* Rate withheld due to low count.



www.montanakidscount.org