

HOUSE BILL NO. 2

INTRODUCED BY L. JONES,

BY REQUEST OF THE OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT APPROPRIATING MONEY TO VARIOUS STATE AGENCIES FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Short title. [This act] may be cited as "The General Appropriations Act of 2025".

NEW SECTION. Section 2. First level expenditures. The agency and program appropriation tables in the legislative fiscal analyst narrative accompanying this bill, showing first level expenditures and funding for the 2027 biennium, are adopted as legislative intent.

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of [this act] is for any reason held unconstitutional, the decision does not affect the validity of the remaining portions of [this act].

NEW SECTION. Section 4. Appropriation control. An appropriation item designated "Biennial" may be spent in either year of the biennium. An appropriation item designated "Restricted" may be used during the biennium only for the purpose designated by its title and as presented to the Legislature. An appropriation item designated "One Time Only" or "OTO" may not be included in the present law base for the 2029 biennium. The Office of Budget and Program Planning shall establish a separate appropriation on the statewide accounting, budgeting, and human resource system for any item designated "Biennial", "Restricted", "One Time Only", or "OTO". The Office of Budget and Program Planning shall establish at least one appropriation on the statewide accounting, budgeting, and human resource system for any appropriation that appears as a separate line item in [this act].

NEW SECTION. Section 5. Appropriation control. The Office of Budget and Program Planning shall establish a separate appropriation on the statewide accounting, budgeting, and human resource system for the funding included in each Executive Branch agency's budget to pay fixed cost allocations for the State Information Technology Services Division of the Department of Administration. The appropriations must be designated as restricted.

NEW SECTION. Section 6. Appropriation control. For any appropriation for the Legislative Audit Division Federal Single Audit contained in this act, the Office of Budget and Program Planning is authorized to move the appropriation between agencies. Movement of appropriation authority must be based on actual audit hours worked by legislative auditors on the Federal Single Audit for any specific agency. The "Restricted" and "Biennial" designation must be retained on all appropriations for the Legislative Audit Division Federal Single Audit.

NEW SECTION. Section 7. Program definition. As used in [this act], "program":

- (1) has the same meaning as provided in 17-7-102;
- (2) is consistent with the management and accountability structure established on the statewide accounting, budgeting, and human resource system; and
- (3) is identified as a major subdivision of an agency ordinaly numbered with an Arabic numeral.

NEW SECTION. Section 8. Personal services funding -- 2029 biennium. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), present law and new proposal funding budget requests for the 2027 biennium submitted under Title 17, chapter 7, part 1, by each Executive, Judicial, and Legislative Branch agency must include funding of first level personal services separate from funding of other expenditures. The funding of first level personal services by fund or equivalent for each fiscal year must be shown at the fourth reporting level or equivalent in the budget request for the 2029 biennium submitted by November 1 to the legislative fiscal analyst by the Office of Budget and Program Planning. For the purpose of developing the personal services budget for the 2029 biennium, legislatively authorized positions budgeted (PB) are the same as full-time equivalents (FTE).

REQUESTED BY: Representative Llew Jones PREPARED BY: Quinn Holzer

(2) The provisions of subsection (1) do not apply to the Montana University System.

NEW SECTION. Section 9. Totals not appropriations. The totals shown in [this act] are for informational purposes only and are not appropriations.

NEW SECTION. Section 10. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2025.

NEW SECTION. Section 11. Appropriations. The following money is appropriated for the respective fiscal years: