

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 7

INTRODUCED BY N. NICOL, T. NELSON, B. LER, J. ETCHART, L. DEMING, L. BREWSTER, E. BYRNE, T. FALK, P. FIELDER, J. GILLETTE, S. GIST, R. GREGG, C. HINKLE, S. KELLY, G. KMETZ, K. LOVE, S. MANESS, T. MILLETT, B. MITCHELL, F. NAVE, A. NICASTRO, G. OVERSTREET, A. REGIER, J. SCHILLINGER, K. SEEKINS-CROWE, T. SHARP, M. THIEL, E. TILLEMANN, Z. WIRTH

A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THAT LEGISLATORS OFFSET APPROPRIATIONS IN INTRODUCED BILLS BY IDENTIFYING IN THE SAME BILL THE PROGRAMS FROM WHICH FUNDS ARE TO BE REALLOCATED.

WHEREAS, the United States has surpassed more than \$36 trillion in national debt, which amounts to over \$166,000 in debt for each American; and

WHEREAS, the federal fiscal situation results in economic uncertainty and recurrent threats of government shutdown; and

WHEREAS, government fiscal responsibility provides American citizens with the confidence to engage in our state and national economies, which is beneficial to all; and

WHEREAS, now more than ever, having seen national inflation rates fluctuate dramatically over the past 4 years, even as high as 8% in 2022, fiscal responsibility is necessary not only at the individual level but also at the state and federal government levels; and

WHEREAS, the State of Montana has engaged in record spending year after year, most recently evidenced by the Governor's proposed 2-year state budget of \$17.9 billion; and

WHEREAS, government spending must be tempered by accountability and reason for the good of and the prosperity of all of Montana's citizenry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That if a member of the Legislature of the State of Montana introduces a bill with an appropriation or amends a bill to include an appropriation to authorize the expenditure of money, the bill must also identify a

- 1 program or programs from which the newly appropriated funds are to be reallocated to offset the new
- 2 expenditure.

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