

Amendment - 2nd Reading/2nd House-tan - Requested by: Josh Kassmier - (S) Committee of the Whole

- 2025

69th Legislature 2025

Drafter: Julie Johnson,

HB0863.001.016

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 863

2 INTRODUCED BY L. JONES, J. ESP, C. GLIMM, D. BEDEY, B. MERCER, E. TILLEMAN, K. WALSH

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING STATE FINANCE LAWS; PROVIDING
5 AN APPROPRIATION; AMENDING SECTION 17-7-102, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

6

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

8

9 **Section 1.** Section 17-7-102, MCA, is amended to read:

10 **"17-7-102. (Temporary) Definitions.** As used in this chapter, the following definitions apply:

11 (1) "Additional services" means different services or more of the same services.

12 (2) "Agency" means all offices, departments, boards, commissions, institutions, universities,
13 colleges, and any other person or any other administrative unit of state government that spends or encumbers
14 public money by virtue of an appropriation from the legislature under 17-8-101.

15 (3) "Approving authority" means:

16 (a) the governor or the governor's designated representative for executive branch agencies;

17 (b) the chief justice of the supreme court or the chief justice's designated representative for judicial
18 branch agencies;

19 (c) the speaker for the house of representatives;

20 (d) the president for the senate;

21 (e) appropriate legislative committees or a designated representative for legislative branch
22 agencies; or

23 (f) the board of regents of higher education or its designated representative for the university
24 system.

25 (4) (a) "Base budget" means the resources for the operation of state government that are of an
26 ongoing and nonextraordinary nature in the current biennium. The base budget for the state general fund and
27 state special revenue funds may not exceed that level of funding authorized by the previous legislature.

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1 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Appropriation.** (1) There is appropriated \$100,000 from the Montana-
2 Ireland trade and development special revenue account to the department of commerce for the biennium
3 beginning July 1, 2025, for implementing the provisions of Senate Bill No. 320.

4 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that the appropriation be included in the base budget for the
5 department of commerce for the biennium beginning July 1, 2027.

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7 **COORDINATION SECTION. Section 3. Coordination instruction.** If both House Bill No. 483 and
8 [this act] and an act that provides property tax relief are passed and approved, and if the actual revenues from
9 the 95 school equalization mills for fiscal year 2026 or fiscal year 2027, as certified by the department of
10 revenue, are below the fiscal year 2025 revenue estimate in House Joint Resolution No. 2 of \$441.624 million,
11 then the amount used to evaluate the projected increase or decrease in revenue from the 95 school
12 equalization mills under [section 5 of House Bill No. 483], amending 20-9-336, must be determined by
13 comparing the actual revenues to the 2025 revenue estimate in House Joint Resolution No. 2 of \$441.624
14 million.

15
16 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2025.

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