

HOUSE BILL NO. 34

INTRODUCED BY L. BREWSTER

BY REQUEST OF THE OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE DISASTER RESILIENCY FUND; REVISING THE AMOUNT OF THE STATUTORY APPROPRIATION; ELIMINATING THE TERMINATION DATE OF THE FUND; PROVIDING FOR A TRANSFER OF FUNDS; REQUIRING PROJECTS BE APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATURE PRIOR TO FUNDING; AMENDING SECTION 17-7-133, MCA; AMENDING SECTION 24, CHAPTER 722, LAWS OF 2023; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE DATES."

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

Section 1. Section 17-7-133, MCA, is amended to read:

"17-7-133. (Temporary) Montana local disaster resiliency fund. (1) There is statutorily appropriated pursuant to 17-7-502 \$4 up to \$15 million per a year beginning in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 2025, from the general Montana local disaster resiliency fund to the department of military affairs.

(2) Eligible uses of the money are:

(a) state and local mitigation projects that reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from future natural disasters;

(b) ~~the nonfederal cost share for personnel and contracted resources~~ performing mitigation program management; and

(c) ~~matching funds for grants for the purchase of hazardous material equipment and training to increase local capacity to respond to incidents as defined in 10-3-1203 involving hazardous material training and administrative resources.~~

(3) The appropriation is void in any year that there is a projected general fund budget deficit pursuant to 17-7-140. ~~(Terminates June 30, 2027—sec. 24, Ch. 722, L. 2023.)"~~

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Procedure for funding projects. (1) Prior to a legislative session, the

department of military affairs must receive proposals for projects requesting funding from 17-7-133 on a continual basis. The department shall prepare and submit a list containing the recommended projects and the recommended form and amount of financial assistance for each project to the governor, prioritized by the department. Before making recommendations to the governor, the department may adjust the ranking of projects by giving priority to urgent and serious public health or safety problems. The governor shall review the projects recommended by the department and shall submit the lists of recommended projects and the recommended financial assistance to the legislature.

(2) Money from the fund provided for in 17-7-133 may not be provided for projects until the legislature has approved a list of projects for the biennium through legislation.

Section 3. Section 24, Chapter 722, Laws of 2023, is amended to read:

"Section 24. Termination. (1) [Section 1] terminates June 30, 2025.

(2) [Sections 6 and 7(3)] terminate June 30, 2027."

NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Transfer of funds.** (1) By June 30, 2025, the state treasurer shall transfer \$50 million from the general fund to the local disaster resiliency fund provided for in 17-7-133, MCA.

(2) During the biennium ending June 30, 2027, the state treasurer shall transfer \$50 million from the general fund to the local disaster resiliency fund provided for in 17-7-133, MCA.

NEW SECTION. **Section 5. Effective dates.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), [this act] is effective on passage and approval.

(2) [Section 2] is effective July 1, 2025.

NEW SECTION. **Section 6. Codification instruction.** [Section 2] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 17, chapter 7, part 1, and the provisions of Title 17, chapter 7, part 1, apply to [section 2].

~~NEW SECTION. **Section 5. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.~~

- 2025

Drafter: Julie Johnson,

1 NEW SECTION. **Section 7. Applicability.** [Section 2] applies to appropriations from 17-7-133
2 starting in the legislative session beginning January 2027 and every subsequent legislative session.

3 - END -

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