

SENATE BILL NO. 278

INTRODUCED BY S. NOVAK, J. WINDY BOY, P. STRAND, S. WEBBER, M. ROMANO, J. TREBAS, R.
TEMPEL, L. MUSZKIEWICZ, J. LYNCH, D. HARVEY, J. ISALY, J. FULLER, P. ELVERUM, J. MORIGEAU

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING EDUCATION LAWS RELATED TO ADVANCED
OPPORTUNITIES; ESTABLISHING "ADVANCED OPPORTUNITY FACILITATORS" AND DEFINING THE
TERM; ALLOWING A SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYING AN ADVANCED OPPORTUNITY FACILITATOR TO
UTILIZE A PORTION OF ITS ADVANCED OPPORTUNITY AID IN PAYING THE FACILITATOR AND
RECEIVE A QUALITY EDUCATOR PAYMENT FOR THE ADVANCED OPPORTUNITY FACILITATOR;
AMENDING SECTIONS 20-7-1503, 20-7-1506, AND 20-9-327, MCA; AND PROVIDING ~~AN~~-EFFECTIVE
~~DATED~~DATES."

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

Section 1. Section 20-7-1503, MCA, is amended to read:

"20-7-1503. Definitions. As used in this part, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Advanced opportunity" means any course, exam, or experiential, online, or other learning
opportunity that is incorporated in a district's advanced opportunity plan and that is designed to advance each
qualifying pupil's opportunity for postsecondary career and educational success.

(2) "Advanced opportunity aid" means, for each fiscal year:

(a) for an elementary district, 4.5% of the district's total quality educator payment defined in 20-9-
306 in the prior year;

(b) for a high school district, 30% of the district's total quality educator payment defined in 20-9-
306 in the prior year; and

(c) for a K-12 district, 18% of the district's total quality educator payment defined in 20-9-306 in the
prior year.

(3) "Advanced opportunity facilitator" means an individual employed by a school district who
coordinates between the school district, a qualifying pupil and the pupil's family, postsecondary institutions,

Amendment - 1st Reading/2nd House-blue - Requested by: (H) Education

- 2025

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Drafter: Laura Sankey Keip,

SB0278.002.001

(a) holds a valid certificate under the provisions of 20-4-106 and is employed by an entity listed in subsection (1) of this section in a position that requires an educator license in accordance with the administrative rules adopted by the board of public education;

(b) (i) is a licensed professional under 37-8-405, 37-8-415, 37-11-301, 37-15-301, 37-17-302, 37-24-301, 37-25-302, 37-39-308, 37-39-309, or 37-39-311; and

(ii) is employed by an entity listed in subsection (1) to provide services to students; or

(c) (i) holds an American Indian language and culture specialist license; and

(ii) is employed by an entity listed in subsection (1) to provide services to students in an Indian language immersion program pursuant to Title 20, chapter 7, part 14; or

(d) is employed by an entity listed in subsection (1) as an advanced opportunity facilitator."

COORDINATION SECTION. Section 4. Coordination instruction. If both House Bill No. 252 and [this act] are passed and approved and if House Bill No. 252 contains a section amending 20-9-327, then [section 3 of this act], amending 20-9-327, is void and the section in House Bill No. 252 amending 20-9-327 must be amended to include a new subsection (3)(b)(iv) that reads as follows:

"(iv) is employed by an educational entity listed in subsection (1) as an advanced opportunity facilitator."

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

(2) [This act] is [Sections 1 and 2] are effective July 1, 2025.

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