

HOUSE BILL NO. 15

INTRODUCED BY M. MCCANN

BY REQUEST OF THE OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF STATE DEBT THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS; APPROPRIATING THE PROCEEDS OF THE BONDS FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2003; PROVIDING FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS FROM THE GENERAL FUND; PROVIDING FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS AND THE APPROPRIATION OF THE BOND PROCEEDS; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Definitions.** As used in [sections 1 through 4], the following definitions apply:

(1) "Information technology project" means the planning, design, development, acquisition, installation, or integration of software and required hardware to provide for upgraded and integrated state management and educational information systems.

(2) "Responsible agency" means the lead agency for each information technology project, as provided in [section 2].

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Appropriation of bond proceeds and approval of projects.** Upon the sale of general obligation bonds by the board of examiners, the following bond proceeds are appropriated from the capital projects fund to each responsible agency for the following information technology projects:

Agency/Project	Bond Proceeds
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE--Gambling Division	
Video Gambling Automated Accounting and Reporting System Data Collection Units	\$878,850
MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM	
PBS--TV Digital Conversion	2,500,000



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2 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Authorization of bonds.** (1) The board of examiners may issue and
3 sell general obligation information technology bonds in an amount not exceeding \$3,378,850 for the
4 projects described in [section 2] over and above the amount of general obligation bonds outstanding on
5 January 1, 2001. The bonds must be issued in accordance with Title 17, chapter 5, part 8. The bonds
6 authorized by this section must mature within 10 years or less from their date of issue. The authority
7 granted to the board by this section is in addition to any other authorization to the board to issue and sell
8 general obligation bonds.

9 (2) It is the intent of the 57th legislature that the annual debt service payments on the bonds
10 authorized in subsection (1) be paid from the general fund.

11 (3) It is the intent of the 57th legislature that bonds sold to purchase equipment be issued for a
12 term that reflects the life of the asset.

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14 NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Expenditures.** Expenditures of bond proceeds under [sections 1
15 through 3] and this section may be used for information technology project administration and
16 implementation, including software and required hardware, licensing, and contracted services.

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18 NEW SECTION. **Section 5. Two-thirds vote required.** Because [section 3] authorizes the creation
19 of state debt, Article VIII, section 8, of the Montana constitution requires a vote of two-thirds of the
20 members of each house of the legislature for passage.

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22 NEW SECTION. **Section 6. Severability.** If a part of [this act] is invalid, all valid parts that are
23 severable from the invalid part remain in effect. If a part of [this act] is invalid in one or more of its
24 applications, the part remains in effect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid
25 applications.

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27 NEW SECTION. **Section 7. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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