

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 624

2 INTRODUCED BY G. MASOLO

3

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CREATING A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION GRANT
5 PROGRAM; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; REQUIRING THAT THE STATE FUND TRANSFER \$2
6 MILLION TO THE GENERAL FUND; APPROPRIATING \$2 MILLION FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE
7 SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM; AMENDING SECTION
8 39-71-2320, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

9

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

11

12 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Career and technical education grant program -- eligibility -- rulemaking**

13 -- **grant account.** (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall administer a career and technical
14 education grant program for school districts. In order to be eligible for a grant, a school district must have
15 an approved career and technical education program and receive funding for the program either from a
16 biennial appropriation in accordance with 20-7-305 and 20-7-306 or from the Carl D. Perkins Vocational
17 and Applied Technology Education Act, as amended. A school district may use the grant for programs in
18 a middle school, a junior high school, or a high school.

19 (2) A school district that receives a grant shall use the money for:

20 (a) professional development;

21 (b) new equipment and equipment upgrades;

22 (c) new curriculum and curriculum updates; and

23 (d) career guidance and counseling.

24 (3) Grant proposals must be screened by a panel of state officials, business leaders, and
25 educators. Proposals must be scored on the basis of how the proposal will help improve the Montana
26 economy.

27 (4) The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt rules for the administration of the grant
28 program. The rules must include but are not limited to:

29 (a) the application procedure, including the application form and the application timelines;

30 (b) the selection of the panel participants;

1 (c) the development of specific criteria for rating the grant proposals. The specific criteria must
2 conform to the general criteria of improving Montana's economy.

3 (5) A grant award is in addition to any existing funding that a school district may have for its
4 career and technical education programs. A grant award may not supplant any existing funding.

5 (6) There is a career and technical education account in the state special revenue fund as provided
6 in 17-2-102. The money in the account must be used by the superintendent of public instruction to award
7 grants to school districts in accordance with the provisions of this section.

8

9 **Section 2.** Section 39-71-2320, MCA, is amended to read:

10 "**39-71-2320. Property of state fund -- investment required -- exception.** (1) Except as provided
11 in subsection (2), all premiums and other money paid to the state fund, all property and securities acquired
12 through the use of money belonging to the state fund, and all interest and dividends earned upon money
13 belonging to the state fund are the sole property of the state fund and must be used exclusively for the
14 operations and obligations of the state fund. The money collected by the state fund may not be used for
15 any other purpose. However, state fund money must be invested by the board of investments provided
16 for in 2-15-1808.

17 (2) The state fund shall pay to the general fund:

18 (a) ~~\$10~~ \$1 million in the fiscal year ending June 30, ~~1998~~ 2001; and

19 (b) ~~\$10~~ \$1 million in the fiscal year ending June 30, ~~1999~~ 2002."

20

21 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Appropriation for career and technical education.** There is appropriated
22 \$2 million from the general fund to the superintendent of public instruction for the biennium beginning July
23 1, 2001. The money must be deposited in the career and technical education account established in
24 [section 1].

25

26 NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
27 integral part of Title 20, chapter 7, part 3, and the provisions of Title 20, chapter 7, part 3, apply to
28 [section 1].

29

30 NEW SECTION. **Section 5. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2001.

31

- END -