1   SENATE BILL NO. 43

2   INTRODUCED BY TROPILA

3   BY REQUEST OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

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5   A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CHANGING THE FEE FOR SERVICES COLLECTED BY THE

6   MONTANA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND FROM A MANDATORY FEE TO AN OPTIONAL FEE; AND

7   AMENDING SECTION 20-8-102, MCA."

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

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11   **Section 1.** Section 20-8-102, MCA, is amended to read:

12   **"20-8-102. Objects and purposes -- assistance to programs -- fee.** (1) The Montana school for the

13   deaf and blind is a residential and day school for children and adolescents who are deaf or blind or whose

14   hearing or sight is so defective that they cannot be successfully taught and are unable to receive a sufficient or

15   proper education in the public schools of the state.

16   (2)   The school shall serve as a consultative resource for parents of hearing impaired and visually

17   impaired children not yet enrolled in an educational program and for public schools of the state where hearing

18   impaired or visually impaired children are enrolled. The school upon request shall ensure that services and

19   programs for hearing impaired or visually impaired children are appropriate and sufficient. The school may

20   provide assistance to the programs that the school determines is needed. The school ~~shall~~ may collect a

21   reasonable fee for the assistance from the public school or other responsible agency receiving the assistance.

22   ~~The fee must be in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of services provided.~~

23   (3)   The object and purpose of the school ~~is~~ are to furnish and provide, by the use of specialized

24   methods and systems, an education for the hearing impaired and visually impaired children of this state that is

25   commensurate with the education provided to nonhandicapped children in the public schools and that will enable

26   children being served by the school to become independent and self-sustaining citizens."

27   - END -