

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 608

2 INTRODUCED BY A. OLSON, LEWIS

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TRANSFERRING MONEY FROM THE STATE GENERAL FUND TO
5 THE ENDOWMENT FOR CHILDREN FUND; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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7 WHEREAS, pursuant to section 2-15-2214, MCA, there is a Montana Children's Trust Fund Board,
8 established in 1985, consisting of seven members appointed by the Governor for 3-year terms; and9 WHEREAS, pursuant to section 52-7-105, MCA, there is within the permanent fund type an endowment
10 for children, the endowment is not subject to appropriation, and the purpose of the endowment is to provide a
11 permanent source of funding to support the programs and services related to a broad range of child abuse and
12 neglect primary prevention activities and family resource programs operated by nonprofit or public,
13 community-based educational and service organizations; and14 WHEREAS, pursuant to section 52-7-105, MCA, the endowment may receive funds from appropriations;
15 gifts, grants, and donations, from public or private sources; and other money credited or transferred to the
16 endowment from any other fund or source; and17 WHEREAS, pursuant to section 52-7-105, MCA, the State Treasurer must receive and shall deposit
18 money in the endowment, the Board of Investments shall invest the money in the endowment, and only interest
19 generated by the endowment is available for expenditure by the Board; and20 WHEREAS, the Montana Legislature has not transferred funds to the endowment for children to support
21 child abuse and neglect prevention efforts statewide; and22 WHEREAS, the Montana children's trust fund program receives a federal community-based child abuse
23 and neglect prevention grant in the amount of approximately \$179,000 annually; and24 WHEREAS, the Montana children's trust fund program receives approximately \$50,000 annually in state
25 special revenue generated by the income tax checkoff and \$5 for every divorce filing in Montana; and26 WHEREAS, the Montana children's trust fund program has served at-risk children and families statewide
27 by providing a broad range of child abuse and neglect primary prevention programming, the main focus being
28 parent education; and29 WHEREAS, additional resources are needed to help at-risk families remain intact and out of the state
30 child protective services system; and

1 WHEREAS, the child protective services system is overburdened by increasing caseloads and has limited
2 financial and human resources to serve the critical cases coming into the system.

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

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6 NEW SECTION. Section 1. Fund transfer. There is transferred ~~\$1 million \$500,000~~ \$1 MILLION for the
7 2009 biennium from the state general fund to the endowment for children fund established under 52-7-105.

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9 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2007.

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