

1 _____ BILL NO. _____

2 INTRODUCED BY _____
3 (Primary Sponsor)

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CREATING THE MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM WATER
5 CENTER AT MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN; PROVIDING THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE
6 AND DUTIES OF THE MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM WATER CENTER; PROVIDING FOR AN ADVISORY
7 COMMITTEE; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION TO FUND THE MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM WATER
8 CENTER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

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12 **NEW SECTION. Section 1. Montana university system water center.** There is a Montana university
13 system water center at Montana state university-Bozeman. The purpose of the center is to develop, implement,
14 and coordinate water-related research programs in the state and transfer the results of research and new
15 technologies to potential users.

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17 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Montana university system water center -- organization -- duties. (1)**
18 The principal administrative officer of the Montana university system water center is the director. The director
19 must be appointed by the president of Montana state university-Bozeman and is under the direct supervision of
20 the president or a vice president of Montana state university-Bozeman as designated by the president.

21 (2) The presidents of the university of Montana-Missoula and Montana tech of the university of Montana
22 shall each appoint one individual to serve as associate directors of the Montana university system water center.

23 (3) To meet the purposes of the Montana university system water center, the director and associate
24 directors, with the advice of the advisory committee established in [section 3], shall develop appropriate policies
25 and procedures for:

- 26 (a) setting research priorities;
- 27 (b) collaborating with water user organizations, other universities, federal, state, and local government
- 28 agencies, and the legislature in the formulation of its research program;
- 29 (c) selection of projects to be funded; and
- 30 (d) the dissemination of information and transfer of technology produced by Montana university system

1 water center research.

2 (4) The Montana university system water center shall:

3 (a) consult with state and local government agencies, water user organizations, the legislature, and other
4 potential users of research in identifying and prioritizing water-related issues for research;

5 (b) negotiate and administer contracts with other universities for the conduct of research projects;

6 (c) disseminate new information and facilitate transfer and application of new technologies as they are
7 developed;

8 (d) act as a liaison between Montana and the federal research funding agencies as an advocate for
9 Montana water research projects;

10 (e) facilitate and stimulate research that:

11 (i) relates to policy issues facing the legislature;

12 (ii) supports state water agencies' missions with research on problems encountered or expected; and

13 (iii) provides water planning and management organizations with tools to increase efficiency and
14 effectiveness of water planning and management.

15 (5) The Montana university system water center is authorized to employ professional, clerical, and other
16 personnel as needed to carry out the provisions of [sections 1 through 3].

17 (6) The Montana university system water center is authorized to expend funds appropriated by the
18 legislature for center expenses, research projects, and cost sharing on projects funded with federal or private
19 money.

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21 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Montana university system advisory committee.** (1) There is an
22 advisory committee on water research policy that consists of at least 10 members appointed by the director of
23 the Montana university system water center.

24 (2) Members of the advisory committee shall serve terms of 4 years. Members shall serve without
25 compensation and are not entitled to reimbursement for expenses incurred in performance of their duties.

26 (3) The advisory committee shall recommend policy guidelines for implementing the functions of the
27 Montana university system water center and shall evaluate the programs of the center. The advisory committee
28 shall also advise and counsel the director of the center and shall make recommendations to assist the director
29 in carrying out the purposes of [sections 1 through 3].

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1 NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Appropriation.** (1) Subject to subsection (2), there is appropriated
2 \$327,000 from the general fund for the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, to the Montana university system water
3 center for the purpose of implementing [sections 1 through 3].

4 (2) Montana state university-Bozeman may not withhold any amount from the appropriation provided for
5 in subsection (1) for the purpose of paying overhead or administrative costs.

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7 NEW SECTION. **Section 5. Codification instruction.** [Sections 1 through 3] are intended to be codified
8 as an integral part of Title 20, chapter 25, part 2, and the provisions of Title 20, chapter 25, part 2, apply to
9 [sections 1 through 3].

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11 NEW SECTION. **Section 6. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2007.

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