

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 165

2 INTRODUCED BY C. VINCENT

3 BY REQUEST OF THE FIRE SUPPRESSION COMMITTEE

4
5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT INCREASING FUNDING AND STATUTORY APPROPRIATION FOR
6 EMERGENCIES INCLUDING FIRES; PROVIDING FOR ONGOING FUND TRANSFERS TO THE FIRE
7 SUPPRESSION ACCOUNT; REMOVING THE TERMINATION DATE FOR THE FIRE SUPPRESSION
8 ACCOUNT; EXPANDING THE USE OF THE FIRE SUPPRESSION ACCOUNT; AMENDING SECTIONS
9 10-3-312 AND 76-13-150, MCA; REPEALING SECTION 6, CHAPTER 2, SPECIAL LAWS OF SEPTEMBER
10 2007; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."
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12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
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14 **Section 1.** Section 10-3-312, MCA, is amended to read:

15 **"10-3-312. Maximum expenditure by governor -- appropriation.** (1) Whenever an emergency,
16 including an energy emergency as defined in 90-4-302, or a disaster is declared by the governor, there is
17 statutorily appropriated to the office of the governor, as provided in 17-7-502, and, subject to subsection (2), the
18 governor is authorized to expend from the general fund an amount not to exceed ~~\$16~~ \$21 million in any biennium,
19 minus any amount appropriated pursuant to 10-3-310 in the same biennium. The statutory appropriation in this
20 subsection may be used by any state agency designated by the governor.

21 (2) (a) In the event of the recovery of money expended under this section, the spending authority must
22 be reinstated to a level reflecting the recovery.

23 (b) The governor may not expend more than \$16 million in any biennium for emergencies other than
24 fires.

25 (3) If a disaster is declared by the president of the United States, there is statutorily appropriated to the
26 office of the governor, as provided in 17-7-502, and the governor is authorized to expend from the general fund
27 an amount not to exceed \$500,000 during the biennium to meet the state's share of the individual and family grant
28 programs as provided in 42 U.S.C. 5178. The statutory appropriation in this subsection may be used by any state
29 agency designated by the governor."
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