

HOUSE BILL NO. 549

INTRODUCED BY L. WHITFORD

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAMS AND INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION PROJECTS; APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION FOR THE PILOT PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

**NEW SECTION. Section 1. American Indian tribal language immersion programs and innovative language revitalization projects.** (1) Subject to funding for the program, the superintendent of public instruction shall establish and administer a pilot program for public school districts to participate in an American Indian tribal language immersion program or innovative tribal language project.

(2) The program shall provide startup funding incentives for up to seven qualifying schools subject to criteria established by the superintendent of public instruction.

(3) Schools participating in the program must receive a minimum of \$142,000 annually for 2 years to establish an effective instructional model that addresses tribal language immersion programs or innovative tribal language revitalization projects, ensures academic progress, and meets accreditation standards set by the board of public education.

**NEW SECTION. Section 2. Appropriation.** There is appropriated \$2 million from the general fund to the office of public instruction for the biennium ending June 30, 2015, for distribution to schools participating in American Indian tribal language immersion programs and innovative language revitalization projects.

**NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2013.

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