

SENATE BILL NO. 281

INTRODUCED BY M. PHILLIPS

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TO COLLABORATE WITH A MONTANA OFFICE DEDICATED TO CLIMATOLOGY LOCATED ON THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA-MISSOULA CAMPUS; REQUIRING A BIENNIAL REPORT ON CLIMATE TO THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. State climatology -- department participation -- report.** (1) The

department of environmental quality shall collaborate with a Montana office dedicated to climatology located on the university of Montana-Missoula campus to assist in that office's efforts to provide scientifically sound climate information in Montana.

(2) Collaboration must include assisting in the:

(a) development of systems that provide Montanans with access to climate information and research by assimilating, organizing, and disseminating that information;

(b) interpretation of climate information; and

(c) development of proposed policy or management guidelines, based on a scientifically sound foundation, to address variability in Montana's climate.

(3) The department shall coordinate with the drought advisory committee established pursuant to 2-15-3308 in meeting the requirements of this section.

(4) The department shall submit a biennial report on the state of the Montana climate to the governor and to the legislature as provided in 5-11-210.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 75, and the provisions of Title 75 apply to [section 1].

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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