

HOUSE BILL NO. 15

INTRODUCED BY M. CUFFE

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT APPROPRIATING MONEY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
5 COMMERCE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY PROJECTS THROUGH THE  
6 QUALITY SCHOOLS FACILITY GRANT PROGRAM; AUTHORIZING GRANTS FROM THE SCHOOL FACILITY  
7 AND TECHNOLOGY STATE SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT; PLACING CONDITIONS ON GRANTS AND  
8 FUNDS; APPROPRIATING MONEY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR EMERGENCY GRANTS;  
9 APPROPRIATING MONEY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR PLANNING GRANTS; AND  
10 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

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14 **NEW SECTION. Section 1. Appropriations from school facility and technology state special**  
15 **revenue account.** (1) There is appropriated to the department of commerce \$5,881,000 from the school facility  
16 and technology state special revenue account to be used to finance grants authorized by this section.

17 (2) The funds appropriated in subsection (1) must be used by the department to make grants to the  
18 public school districts listed in subsection (3) for the described purposes and in amounts not to exceed the  
19 amounts set out in subsection (3). The appropriation is subject to the conditions set forth in 90-6-812 and  
20 described in the quality schools facility grant program 2017 biennium report to the 64th legislature. The  
21 department shall commit funds to projects listed in subsection (3), up to the amounts authorized, based on the  
22 manner of disbursement set forth in subsections (4) through (6), until the funds appropriated in subsection (1)  
23 are expended.

24 (3) The following applicants and projects are authorized for grants and listed in the order of their priority:

25 Applicant/Project	Grant Amount
26 1. Miles City ELE (fire system upgrades)	\$359,623
27 2. Custer County HS (drainage and roof upgrades)	\$960,254
28 3. Yellowstone Academy ELE (wastewater)	\$470,000
29 4. Pryor ELE (replace unsafe school)	\$1,220,000
30 5. Wolf Point ELE (drainage and roof upgrades)	\$862,300



1	6. Arlee ELE (boiler replacement)	\$375,000
2	7. Livingston ELE (HVAC upgrades)	\$665,000
3	8. Polson ELE (replace boiler and system)	\$968,823

4 (4) A grant recipient's entitlement to receive funds is dependent on the grant recipient's compliance with  
5 the conditions set forth in 90-6-812 and on the availability of funds.

6 (5) Funding for projects in subsection (3) will be provided only as long as there are sufficient funds  
7 available from the school facility and technology state special revenue account. Funding for these projects will  
8 be made available in the order that the grant recipients satisfy the conditions in 90-6-812.

9 (6) Grants to recipients listed in subsection (3) that have not completed all of the conditions described  
10 in 90-6-812 by September 30, 2016, must be reviewed by the next regular session of the legislature to determine  
11 if the authorized grant should be withdrawn.

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13 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Approval of grants -- completion of biennial appropriation.** The  
14 legislature, pursuant to 90-6-809 and 90-6-810, approves the quality schools facility grants listed in [section 1]  
15 and for the purposes in [sections 4 and 5]. The authorization of these grants completes a biennial appropriation  
16 from the school facility and technology state special revenue account provided for in 20-9-516.

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18 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Condition of grants -- disbursement of funds.** The disbursement of grant  
19 funds for the projects specified in [section 1(3)] is subject to the conditions set forth in 90-6-812.

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21 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Appropriation from school facility and technology state special**  
22 **revenue account for emergency grants.** There is appropriated to the department of commerce \$100,000 for  
23 the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, from the school facility and technology state special revenue account for  
24 the purpose of providing emergency grants to public school districts for a school facility project that is  
25 necessitated by an emergency, as defined in 90-6-803.

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27 **NEW SECTION. Section 5. Appropriation from school facility and technology state special**  
28 **revenue account for planning grants.** There is appropriated to the department of commerce \$900,000 for the  
29 biennium beginning July 1, 2015, from the school facility and technology state special revenue account for the  
30 purpose of providing matching planning grants to public school districts for the planning of school facility projects,

1 as defined in 90-6-803.

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3 NEW SECTION. **Section 6. Notification to tribal governments.** The secretary of state shall send a  
4 copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the seven Montana reservations and to the Little Shell  
5 Chippewa tribe.

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7 NEW SECTION. **Section 7. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2015.

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