

HOUSE BILL NO. 356

INTRODUCED BY D. JONES

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING FUNDING FOR CAREER AND VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL EDUCATION; ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO INCREASES IN STATE FUNDING; INCREASING DISTRIBUTIONS TO DISTRICTS FOR CAREER AND VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR THE 2017 BIENNIUM; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION; AMENDING SECTION 20-7-306, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

**Section 1.** Section 20-7-306, MCA, is amended to read:

**"20-7-306. Distribution of secondary K-12 career and vocational/technical education funds. (1)**

The superintendent of public instruction shall categorize secondary K-12 career and vocational/technical education programs according to the relative additional costs of those programs based on weighted factors, including but not limited to:

- (a) K-12 career and vocational/technical education enrollment;
- (b) approved career and technical student organizations;
- (c) field supervision of students beyond the school year for K-12 career and vocational/technical education; and
- (d) district expenditures related to the K-12 career and vocational/technical education programs.

(2) The superintendent of public instruction shall adjust the weighted factors outlined in subsection (1) as necessary to ensure that the allocations do not exceed the amount appropriated.

(3) Except for other expenditures outlined in subsection (1)(d), funding must be based upon the calculation for secondary K-12 career and vocational/technical education programs of the high school district in the year preceding the year for which funding is requested. Funding for the expenditures referred to in subsection (1)(d) must be based on the calculation for the secondary K-12 career and vocational/technical education programs of the high school district for the 2 years preceding the year for which funding is requested. The funding must be computed for each separate secondary K-12 career and vocational/technical education program.

(4) For secondary career and vocational/technical education programs, the total funding must be

1 distributed to eligible programs based on the four factors listed in subsections (1)(a) through (1)(d).

2 (5) The superintendent of public instruction shall annually distribute the funds allocated in this section  
3 by November 1. The money received by the high school district must be deposited into the subfund of the  
4 miscellaneous programs fund established by 20-9-507 and may be expended only for approved secondary K-12  
5 career and vocational/technical education programs. The expenditure of the money must be reported in the  
6 annual trustees' report as required by 20-9-213.

7 (6) Any increase in the amount distributed to a school district from the biennial state appropriation for  
8 secondary K-12 career and vocational/technical education must be used for the expansion and enhancement of  
9 career and vocational/technical education programs and may not be used to reduce previous district spending  
10 on career and vocational/technical education programs."

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12 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Appropriation.** (1) There is appropriated \$10 million from the general fund  
13 to the office of public instruction in each year of the biennium beginning July 1, 2015.

14 (2) The appropriation is for the purpose of expanding and enhancing secondary K-12 career and  
15 vocational/technical education through distributions pursuant to 20-7-305 and 20-7-306.

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17 **COORDINATION SECTION. Section 3. Coordination instruction.** If both House Bill No. 2 and [this  
18 act] are passed and approved and if House Bill No. 2 contains an appropriation for the expansion and  
19 enhancement of secondary K-12 career and vocational/technical education, then [section 2 of this act] is void.

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21 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2015.

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