

SENATE BILL NO. 364

INTRODUCED BY J. COHENOUR, DEBBY BARRETT, B. HAMLETT

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT NAMING THE MONTANA HERITAGE CENTER AFTER BETTY BABCOCK AND ~~ALLOWING~~ REQUIRING A PLAQUE COMMEMORATING HER TO BE DISPLAYED AT THE CENTER; AND AMENDING SECTION 2-17-807, MCA."

WHEREAS, Betty Babcock epitomized the best in citizenship in Montana over her long life of 91 years, from her early years in Glendive and then on to Miles City, Billings, and finally Helena; and

WHEREAS, Betty Babcock served Montana in many roles, including as First Lady from 1962 to 1969, as one of several female delegates to the 1972 Montana Constitutional Convention, and as a representative from Helena in the Montana House of Representatives in the 44th Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Betty Babcock defined civic-mindedness throughout her life and was a stalwart supporter of anything Montana, from the 1964 Centennial Train to serving on the Helena/Lewis and Clark County Historic Preservation Commission to cochairing the Capitol Restoration Commission; and

WHEREAS, Betty Babcock championed the construction of a new Montana Historical Society museum, but her dream was not realized before her passing; and

WHEREAS, there could be no better tribute to Betty Babcock and her legacy than to name the proposed Montana Heritage Center after this great Montanan.

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

**Section 1.** Section 2-17-807, MCA, is amended to read:

**"2-17-807. Approval for displays and naming buildings, spaces, and rooms.** (1) A state building, space, or room in the capitol complex may not be named after an individual or a bust, plaque, statue, memorial, monument, or art display may not be displayed on a long-term basis in the capitol complex or on the capitol complex grounds unless the building, space, or room name or display is approved by the legislature and complies with this part. The capitol building, including any future additions and expansions, may not be named after any person, as defined in 2-4-102.

(2) (a) Except as provided in subsections (2)(b) through ~~(2)(e)~~ (2)(f), a state building, space, or room in



1 the capitol complex may not be named after an individual or a bust, plaque, statue, memorial, monument, or art  
2 display commemorating an individual may not be displayed on a long-term basis in the capitol complex unless  
3 the individual has been deceased for at least 10 years.

4 (b) The statue of Mike and Maureen Mansfield authorized in 2-17-808(1)(d)(iii) and the plaque  
5 commemorating President George H. W. Bush authorized in 2-17-808(2)(b)(ii) may continue to be displayed in  
6 the capitol complex.

7 (c) ~~A Except as provided in subsection (2)(f), a public building within the capitol complex constructed with~~  
8 private funds after April 17, 2007, or a space or room constructed with private funds after April 17, 2007, in a  
9 public building, other than the capitol building, may bear a name designated by the benefactor of the building,  
10 space, or room if:

11 (i) the building, space, or room is to be owned by or used exclusively or primarily by the Montana  
12 historical society to store or display artifacts or other property owned by the Montana historical society; and

13 (ii) the building, space, or room and the designated name are approved by the council and by the board  
14 of the historical society, provided for in 2-15-1512.

15 (d) The classroom building authorized in May 2007 to be built at the Montana law enforcement academy  
16 may be named after Karl Ohs, and a plaque and the Lou Peters award commemorating Karl Ohs may be  
17 displayed there.

18 (e) The justice building located at 215 North Sanders in Helena must be named after Joseph P. Mazurek,  
19 and a plaque and memorial commemorating him may be displayed on the capitol complex grounds.

20 (f) The Montana heritage center must be named after Betty Babcock, and a plaque commemorating her  
21 may MUST be displayed there.

22 (3) A bust, plaque, statue, memorial, monument, or art display commemorating an event, including a  
23 military event, may not be displayed on a long-term basis in the capitol complex until 10 years after the end of  
24 the event.

25 (4) All busts, plaques, statues, memorials, monuments, or art displays authorized, but not installed within  
26 5 years of authorization, must be reauthorized.

27 (5) The department of administration may review and approve the temporary display of a bust, plaque,  
28 statue, memorial, monument, or art display for up to 1 year in the capitol complex or on the capitol complex  
29 grounds."

30 - END -