

1 SENATE BILL NO. 185
2 INTRODUCED BY D. LENZ

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT AFFIRMING LEGISLATIVE INTENT FOR THE HISTORICAL
5 SOCIETY TO FUND EXHIBITS AND EXHIBIT AREAS; AND PROHIBITING THE APPROPRIATION OF
6 PUBLIC FUNDS FOR CERTAIN PROGRAMS AND WAGES."

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8 WHEREAS, Article IX, section 4, of the Montana Constitution provides: "The legislature shall provide
9 for the identification, acquisition, restoration, enhancement, preservation, and administration of scenic, historic,
10 archeologic, scientific, cultural, and recreational areas, sites, records and objects, and for their use and
11 enjoyment by the people"; and

12 WHEREAS, the funding of exhibits and exhibition areas for the Montana Historical Society are not the
13 duty of the Legislature.

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

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17 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Historical society -- funding -- prohibition of public funds for certain**
18 **activities.** (1) The legislature shall appropriate public funds for the maintenance and preservation of records,
19 objects, art, or artifacts in the possession of the historical society and for the maintenance of the Montana
20 heritage center.

21 (2) The legislature may not appropriate public funds to the historical society for the following:
22 (a) programs that are interactive with the public; or
23 (b) wages for those employees who do not directly preserve or maintain records, objects, art, or
24 artifacts in the possession of the historical society, except for the director and the deputy director of the
25 historical society.

26 (3) It is the intent of the legislature that the items listed in subsection (2) be paid for with private
27 funds, including but not limited to donations, grants, and fundraising.

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