

HOUSE BILL NO. 407  
INTRODUCED BY C. VINCENT

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT APPROPRIATING \$3 MILLION FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DIVISION, FOR GRANTS TO ASBESTOS-RELATED DISEASE PROGRAMS THAT SUPPLEMENT HEALTH CARE PLANS AND PROVIDE SCREENING; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

WHEREAS, ongoing litigation with W.R. Grace & Company and delays at the federal level in approving asbestos-related legislation put future funding for programs that assist those exposed to asbestos in jeopardy; and

WHEREAS, programs providing annual screening benefits to individuals exposed to asbestos and supplementing the health care needs of individuals diagnosed with asbestos-related diseases have limited funding.

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

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Appropriation.** There is appropriated for the 2009 biennium \$3 million from the general fund to the department of public health and human services, public health and safety division. The money may be used only for grants to programs that pay certain costs associated with annual screenings for asbestos-related diseases and that assist individuals who have a positive result as determined by a qualified physician for asbestos-related diseases and who have medical needs that are not fully covered by a governmental, group, or individual health care plan.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2007.

- END -

