

HOUSE BILL NO. 157

INTRODUCED BY Z. PERRY

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT EXTENDING SCHOOL DISTRICT LEASING AUTHORITY; AMENDING SECTIONS 20-6-609 AND 20-6-625, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

**Section 1.** Section 20-6-609, MCA, is amended to read:

**"20-6-609. Trustees' authority to acquire property by lease-purchase agreement.** The trustees of a district may acquire real and personal property by an agreement to lease for UP TO 7 YEARS FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY AND FOR UP TO 3 15 years FOR REAL PROPERTY with an option to purchase. The terms of the lease must comply with 20-6-625. If real property is acquired, the trustees shall comply with 20-6-603."

**Section 2.** Section 20-6-625, MCA, is amended to read:

**"20-6-625. Authorization to lease buildings or land for school purposes.** The trustees of any district may lease buildings or land suitable for school purposes when it is within the best interests of the district to lease ~~such building the buildings~~ or land from the county, municipality, another district, or any person. The ~~lease may be for a term of not more than~~ TERM OF THE LEASE MAY NOT EXCEED 3 15 years unless prior approval of the qualified electors of the district is obtained in the manner prescribed by law for school elections, in which case the lease may be for a term ~~of not more than~~ APPROVED BY THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS, BUT NOT EXCEEDING 99 years. Whenever the lease is for a period of time that is longer than the current school fiscal year, the lease requirements for the succeeding school fiscal years shall be an obligation of the final budgets for such years."

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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