

HOUSE BILL NO. 357

INTRODUCED BY K. WHITE

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING A STATE AGENCY TO ESTABLISH A COORDINATING RELATIONSHIP WITH A COUNTY GOVERNING BODY IF THE STATE AGENCY IS COORDINATING, COLLABORATING, OR COOPERATING WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ON A PROPOSED LAND USE PLAN, POLICY, OR ACTION WITHIN A COUNTY."

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

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Coordination with local governments required.** (1) If a federal agency that is proposing a land use plan, policy, or action is coordinating, collaborating, or cooperating with an executive branch agency established under chapter 15 of this title, the executive branch agency with which the federal agency is coordinating shall establish a coordinating relationship with the governing body of each county where the plan, policy, or action will be in effect. The executive branch agency shall establish the coordinating relationship with the governing body of each county and incorporate its input before submitting final recommendations or requests to the federal agency.

(2) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Coordinating" means governments interacting with one another in good faith to reach consistency among government plans, policies, or actions that are intended to take effect within any of the governments' jurisdictions or political boundaries.

(b) "Coordinating relationship" means a relationship in which an executive branch agency solicits, considers, and documents information provided by a county governing body and aids in incorporating the desired objectives expressed by the county governing body as necessary and integral components of federal plans, policies, or actions that are intended to take effect within the county's jurisdiction or political boundary.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 2, chapter 11, and the provisions of Title 2, chapter 11, apply to [section 1].

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