

HOUSE BILL NO. 512

INTRODUCED BY D. MORTENSEN, D. ANKNEY, E. ARNTZEN, S. BERGLEE, T. BROWN, V. COURT,
 G. CUSTER, C. FISCUS, F. GARNER, D. HAGSTROM, B. HARRIS, K. HOLMLUND, D. JONES,
 J. KARJALA, D. KARY, K. KELKER, A. KNUDSEN, M. LANG, S. LASZLOFFY, R. LYNCH, F. MANDEVILLE,
 K. MCCARTHY, M. MCNALLY, C. PEASE-LOPEZ, A. REDFIELD, V. RICCI, T. RICHMOND, R. SHAW,
 C. SMITH, S. STAFFANSON, N. SWANDAL, R. WEBB

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EASTERN MONTANA LABORATORY OF
 CRIMINALISTICS IN YELLOWSTONE COUNTY; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION FOR ~~CONSTRUCTION~~
LEASING OF THE LABORATORY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

Section 1. Section 44-3-301, MCA, is amended to read:

"44-3-301. Laboratory of criminalistics. (1) There is a laboratory of criminalistics within the department
 of justice. The laboratory's purpose is to perform analysis of specimens submitted by all Montana state, county,
 or city law enforcement officers and all state agencies and referral specimens from other states if accepted by
 the laboratory director.

(2) The laboratory's functions include analysis of toxicologic and criminalistic specimens which the
 laboratory director considers within the performance capability of the laboratory.

~~(3) The laboratory must have a western Montana branch located in Missoula County and an eastern
 Montana branch in Yellowstone County SHALL ESTABLISH A YELLOWSTONE COUNTY BRANCH. Each branch must be
 capable of performing all purposes, duties, and functions required by this part. THE LABORATORY DIRECTOR WILL
 DETERMINE THE PURPOSES, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS OF EACH BRANCH THE YELLOWSTONE COUNTY BRANCH, BUT
 PRIORITY IS GIVEN TO THE RELIEF OF THE BACKLOGS OF CHEMISTRY AND TOXICOLOGY STATEWIDE."~~

~~NEW SECTION. Section 2. Transfer of funds. On July 1, 2015, the state treasurer shall transfer \$5.8
 \$2.05 million from the general fund to the long-range building program account in the capital projects fund type
 provided for in 17-7-205.~~

