

SENATE BILL NO. 232

INTRODUCED BY B. BENNETT

1
2
3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING A COUNTY TO PAY FOR USE OF A BUILDING AS A
5 POLLING PLACE IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; AND AMENDING SECTION 13-3-105, MCA."
6

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
8

9 **Section 1.** Section 13-3-105, MCA, is amended to read:

10 **"13-3-105. Designation of polling place.** (1) The county governing body shall designate the polling
11 place for each precinct no later than 30 days before a primary election. The same polling place must be used for
12 both the primary and general election if at all possible. Changes may be made by the governing body in
13 designated polling places up to 10 days before an election if a designated polling place is not available. Polling
14 places may be located outside the boundaries of a precinct.

15 (2) Not more than 10 days or less than 2 days before an election, the election administrator shall publish
16 in a newspaper of general circulation in the county a statement of the locations of the precinct polling places. The
17 election administrator shall include in the published notice the accessibility designation for each polling place
18 according to the classification in 13-3-207. Notice may also be given as provided in 2-3-105 through 2-3-107.

19 (3) An election administrator may make changes in the location of a polling place if an emergency occurs
20 10 days or less before an election. Notice must be posted at both the old and new polling places, and other notice
21 may be given by whatever means available.

22 (4) (A) Any building may be used as a polling place. The building must be furnished at no charge as long
23 as no structural changes are required in order to use the building as a polling place.

24 (B) If the building regularly used as a designated polling place is not available for an election because
25 of an unforeseen or temporary circumstance and no other suitable building is available free of charge, the county
26 may pay for use of a building as a temporary polling place for that election provided that the building meets the
27 polling place standards under this chapter. IF A COUNTY PAYS FOR THE USE OF A BUILDING AS A TEMPORARY POLLING
28 PLACE BECAUSE OF AN UNFORESEEN OR TEMPORARY CIRCUMSTANCE, WITHIN 1 WEEK FOLLOWING THE ELECTION, THE
29 COUNTY SHALL PROVIDE WITH ITS REGULAR REPORT ON ELECTION COSTS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE WITH A REPORT
30 DETAILING THE ANY COSTS INCURRED FOR USE OF A BUILDING PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (4)(B).

