

1 \_\_\_\_\_ BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

2 INTRODUCED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
3 (Primary Sponsor)

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE ITEMIZED DEDUCTION FOR MEDICAL  
5 EXPENSES FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES; DECREASING THE AMOUNT BY WHICH MEDICAL  
6 EXPENSES MUST EXCEED MONTANA ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME IN ORDER TO BE DEDUCTIBLE;  
7 AMENDING SECTION 15-30-2131, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND A  
8 RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY DATE."

9  
10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

11  
12 **Section 1.** Section 15-30-2131, MCA, is amended to read:

13 **"15-30-2131. Deductions allowed in computing net income.** (1) In computing net income, there are  
14 allowed as deductions:

15 (a) except as provided in subsection (3), the items referred to in sections 161, including the  
16 contributions referred to in 33-15-201(5)(b), and 211 of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. 161 and 211,  
17 subject to the following exceptions, which are not deductible:

- 18 (i) items provided for in 15-30-2133;
- 19 (ii) state income tax paid;
- 20 (iii) premium payments for medical care as provided in subsection (1)(g)(i);
- 21 (iv) long-term care insurance premium payments as provided in subsection (1)(g)(ii); and
- 22 (v) a charitable contribution using a charitable gift annuity unless the annuity is a qualified charitable  
23 gift annuity as defined in 33-20-701;

24 (b) federal income tax paid within the tax year, not to exceed \$5,000 for each taxpayer filing singly,  
25 head of household, or married filing separately or \$10,000 if married and filing jointly;

26 (c) expenses of household and dependent care services as outlined in subsections (1)(c)(i) through  
27 (1)(c)(iii) and (2) and subject to the limitations and rules as set out in subsections (1)(c)(iv) through (1)(c)(vi), as  
28 follows:

1 (i) expenses for household and dependent care services necessary for gainful employment incurred

2 for:

3 (A) a dependent under 15 years of age for whom an exemption can be claimed;

4 (B) a dependent as allowable under 15-30-2114(5), except that the limitations for age and gross  
5 income do not apply, who is unable to provide self-care because of physical or mental illness; and

6 (C) a spouse who is unable to provide self-care because of physical or mental illness;

7 (ii) employment-related expenses incurred for the following services, but only if the expenses are  
8 incurred to enable the taxpayer to be gainfully employed:

9 (A) household services that are attributable to the care of the qualifying individual; and

10 (B) care of an individual who qualifies under subsection (1)(c)(i);

11 (iii) expenses incurred in maintaining a household if over half of the cost of maintaining the household  
12 is furnished by an individual or, if the individual is married during the applicable period, is furnished by the  
13 individual and the individual's spouse;

14 (iv) the amounts deductible in subsections (1)(c)(i) through (1)(c)(iii), subject to the following  
15 limitations:

16 (A) a deduction is allowed under subsection (1)(c)(i) for employment-related expenses incurred during  
17 the year only to the extent that the expenses do not exceed \$4,800;

18 (B) expenses for services in the household are deductible under subsection (1)(c)(i) for employment-  
19 related expenses only if they are incurred for services in the taxpayer's household, except that employment-  
20 related expenses incurred for services outside the taxpayer's household are deductible, but only if incurred for  
21 the care of a qualifying individual described in subsection (1)(c)(i)(A) and only to the extent that the expenses  
22 incurred during the year do not exceed:

23 (I) \$2,400 in the case of one qualifying individual;

24 (II) \$3,600 in the case of two qualifying individuals; and

25 (III) \$4,800 in the case of three or more qualifying individuals;

26 (v) if the combined adjusted gross income of the taxpayers exceeds \$18,000 for the tax year during  
27 which the expenses are incurred, the amount of the employment-related expenses incurred, to be reduced by  
28 one-half of the excess of the combined adjusted gross income over \$18,000;

- 1 (vi) for purposes of this subsection (1)(c):
- 2 (A) married couples shall file a joint return or file separately on the same form;
- 3 (B) if the taxpayer is married during any period of the tax year, employment-related expenses incurred
- 4 are deductible only if:
  - 5 (I) both spouses are gainfully employed, in which case the expenses are deductible only to the extent
  - 6 that they are a direct result of the employment; or
  - 7 (II) the spouse is a qualifying individual described in subsection (1)(c)(i)(C);
  - 8 (C) an individual legally separated from the individual's spouse under a decree of divorce or of
  - 9 separate maintenance may not be considered as married;
  - 10 (D) the deduction for employment-related expenses must be divided equally between the spouses
  - 11 when filing separately on the same form;
  - 12 (E) payment made to a child of the taxpayer who is under 19 years of age at the close of the tax year
  - 13 and payments made to an individual with respect to whom a deduction is allowable under 15-30-2114(5) are
  - 14 not deductible as employment-related expenses;
  - 15 (d) in the case of an individual, political contributions determined in accordance with the provisions of
  - 16 section 218(a) and (b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (now repealed) that were in effect for the tax year
  - 17 that ended December 31, 1978;
  - 18 (e) that portion of expenses for organic fertilizer and inorganic fertilizer produced as a byproduct
  - 19 allowed as a deduction under 15-32-303 that was not otherwise deducted in computing taxable income;
  - 20 (f) contributions to the child abuse and neglect prevention program provided for in 52-7-101, subject
  - 21 to the conditions set forth in 15-30-2143;
  - 22 (g) the entire amount of premium payments made by the taxpayer, except premiums deducted in
  - 23 determining Montana adjusted gross income, or for which a credit was claimed under 15-30-2366, for:
    - 24 (i) insurance for medical care, as defined in 26 U.S.C. 213(d), for coverage of the taxpayer, the
    - 25 taxpayer's dependents, and the parents and grandparents of the taxpayer; and
    - 26 (ii) long-term care insurance policies or certificates that provide coverage primarily for any qualified
    - 27 long-term care services, as defined in 26 U.S.C. 7702B(c), for:
    - 28 (A) the benefit of the taxpayer for tax years beginning after December 31, 1994; or

1 (B) the benefit of the taxpayer, the taxpayer's dependents, and the parents and grandparents of the  
2 taxpayer for tax years beginning after December 31, 1996;

3 (h) light vehicle registration fees, as provided for in 61-3-321(2) and 61-3-562, paid during the tax  
4 year; and

5 (i) per capita livestock fees imposed pursuant to 15-24-921, 15-24-922, 81-6-104, 81-6-204, 81-6-  
6 209, 81-7-118, or 81-7-201.

7 (2) (a) Subject to the conditions of subsection (1)(c), a taxpayer who operates a family day-care  
8 home or a group day-care home, as these terms are defined in 52-2-703, and who cares for the taxpayer's own  
9 child and at least one unrelated child in the ordinary course of business may deduct employment-related  
10 expenses considered to have been paid for the care of the child.

11 (b) The amount of employment-related expenses considered to have been paid by the taxpayer is  
12 equal to the amount that the taxpayer charges for the care of a child of the same age for the same number of  
13 hours of care. The employment-related expenses apply regardless of whether any expenses actually have  
14 been paid. Employment-related expenses may not exceed the amounts specified in subsection (1)(c)(iv)(B).

15 (c) Only a day-care operator who is licensed and registered as required in 52-2-721 is allowed the  
16 deduction under this subsection (2).

17 (3) For the purposes of the deduction of medical care expenses provided for in 26 U.S.C. 213, the  
18 deduction is allowed to the extent that eligible medical expenses exceed 6% of Montana adjusted gross  
19 income."

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21 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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23 NEW SECTION. Section 3. Retroactive applicability. [This act] applies retroactively, within the  
24 meaning of 1-2-109, to income tax years beginning after December 31, 2020.

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