

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 181

2 INTRODUCED BY K. ZOLNIKOV

3 BY REQUEST OF THE ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS INTERIM COMMITTEE

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5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TEMPORARILY REDIRECTING AND STATUTORILY
6 APPROPRIATING TECHNOLOGY FUNDING TO E-RATE BROADBAND MATCHING FUNDS; PROVIDING
7 AN APPROPRIATION; AMENDING SECTION 20-9-534, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AN
8 APPLICABILITY DATE, AND A TERMINATION DATE."

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

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12 **Section 1.** Section 20-9-534, MCA, is amended to read:

13 **"20-9-534. Statutory appropriation for school technology purposes.** (1) The amount of \$1 million
14 a year is statutorily appropriated, as provided in 17-7-502, from the school facility and technology account
15 established in 20-9-516 ~~for grants for school technology purposes to the office of public instruction.~~

16 (2) TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE APPROPRIATION UNDER SUBSECTION (1) MUST BE ALLOCATED for
17 providing funds for schools to use as state matching funds for special construction under the federal e-rate
18 broadband program pursuant to 47 CFR 54.505, provided that none of the state matching funds may be used
19 by schools for self-construction of their own or portions of their own networks.

20 (3) BY THE THIRD FRIDAY IN JULY, THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION SHALL ALLOCATE THE
21 REMAINING 75% OF THE APPROPRIATION UNDER SUBSECTION (1) FOR GRANTS FOR SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY PURPOSES.
22 THE ALLOCATION TO EACH DISTRICT MUST BE BASED ON THE RATIO OF THE DISTRICT'S BASE BUDGET TO THE
23 STATEWIDE BASE BUDGET AMOUNT FOR ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS MULTIPLIED BY THE AMOUNT OF MONEY PROVIDED IN
24 20-9-343 FOR THE PURPOSES OF 20-9-533.

25 (4) IF ANY OF THE FUNDS ALLOCATED UNDER SUBSECTION (2) ARE UNSPENT AS OF JUNE 30 OF EACH FISCAL
26 YEAR, THE UNSPENT FUNDS MUST BE ADDED TO THE FUNDS ALLOCATED UNDER SUBSECTION (3) FOR THE SUBSEQUENT
27 FISCAL YEAR.

28 ~~(2) By the third Friday in July, the superintendent of public instruction shall allocate the annual~~

1 ~~statutory appropriation for school technology purposes to each district based on the ratio that each district's~~
2 ~~BASE budget bears to the statewide BASE budget amount for all school districts multiplied by the amount of~~
3 ~~money provided in 20-9-343 for the purposes of 20-9-533."~~

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5 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2021.

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7 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Applicability.** [This act] applies to school fiscal years beginning on ~~ear~~
8 OR after July 1, 2021.

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10 NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Termination.** [This act] terminates June 30, 2023.

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