

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 656

2 INTRODUCED BY J. READ

3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING COUNTY REIMBURSEMENT FOR ASSUMPTION
5 OF CRIMINAL JURISDICTION WITHIN THE FLATHEAD INDIAN RESERVATION; PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE
6 INTENT; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION; AMENDING SECTION 2-1-301, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN
7 EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

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11 **Section 1.** Section 2-1-301, MCA, is amended to read:

12 **"2-1-301. Assumption of criminal jurisdiction of Flathead Indian country -- county**
13 **reimbursement.** (1) The state of Montana hereby obligates and binds itself to assume, as ~~herein~~ provided in
14 this section, criminal jurisdiction over Indians and Indian territory of the Flathead Indian reservation and country
15 within the state in accordance with the consent of the United States given by the act of August 15, 1953 (Public
16 Law 280, 83rd congress, 1st session).

17 (2) The state shall reimburse Lake County for assuming criminal jurisdiction under this section
18 annually. The annual amount of reimbursement must be adjusted each year based on the consumer price
19 index."

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21 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Appropriation.** (1) There is appropriated \$2,191,621 from the general
22 fund to the department of justice in each year of the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, to reimburse Lake
23 County for assuming criminal jurisdiction within the Flathead Indian reservation as required by 2-1-301.

24 (2) The appropriation may only be used to reimburse Lake County.

25 (3) The legislature intends that the appropriation be considered as part of the ongoing base for the
26 next legislative session.

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28 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2021.

