1   HOUSE BILL NO. 479

2   INTRODUCED BY J. READ, B. KEENAN

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4   A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

5   TO ~~ASSUME~~ PROVIDE MONEY TO LAKE COUNTY TO OFFSET PAST COSTS AND COSTS IN THE

6   BIENNIUM FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES ON THE FLATHEAD RESERVATION; PROVIDING AN

7   APPROPRIATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE ~~AND A TERMINATION DATE~~."

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9   WHEREAS, the State believes that the relationship between the CSKT and Lake County has facilitated

10   effective law enforcement and the administration of justice by subjecting all persons to jurisdiction of the State

11   when felonies occur within the exterior boundaries of the county; and

12   WHEREAS, the State is concerned that the positive attributes of the relationship could be significantly

13   harmed if either the State or the Tribe decide to withdraw from their agreement; and

14   WHEREAS, although the State does not believe it has an obligation to fund law enforcement services

15   in Lake County, it wishes to preserve the status quo between the effective date and the end of the biennium to

16   determine whether the Tribe and Lake County wish to continue the relationship with their collective resources,

17   but in the absence of ongoing appropriations in future bienniums from the State; and

18   WHEREAS, to preserve the status quo, the State is providing an appropriated amount for the biennium

19   to Lake County.

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

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23   (Refer to Introduced Bill)

24   Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert:

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26   ~~NEW SECTION. **Section 1.   Assumption of law enforcement activities.** The department of justice~~

27   ~~is authorized to enter into a memorandum of understanding or other binding contract with Lake County for Lake~~

28   ~~County to assume law enforcement activities on the Flathead Indian reservation.~~

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2   NEW SECTION. **Section 1.   Appropriation.** There is appropriated ~~$27,500,000~~ $2.5 million from the

3   general fund to the department of justice for each year in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, to reimburse

4   Lake County for ~~assuming~~ law enforcement activities on the Flathead Indian reservation.

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6   NEW SECTION. **Section 2.   Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2023.

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8   ~~NEW SECTION. **Section 3.   Termination.** [This act] terminates June 30, 2028.~~

9   - END -