

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 597  
2 INTRODUCED BY N. DURAM

3  
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING ALLOCATIONS FROM THE 9-1-1 ACCOUNT;  
5 PROVIDING FOR A TRANSFER OF FUNDS; AMENDING SECTION ~~SECTION~~ SECTIONS- SECTION 10-4-304, ~~AND~~  
6 10-4-306, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

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10 **Section 1.** Section 10-4-304, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"10-4-304. (Temporary) Establishment of 9-1-1 accounts.** (1) There is established in the state  
12 special revenue fund an account ACCOUNTS for fees collected for 9-1-1 services pursuant to 10-4-201.

13 (2) Except as provided in subsection (5), funds in the account ACCOUNTS are statutorily  
14 appropriated to the department, as provided in 17-7-502. Except as provided in subsection (3), funds that are  
15 not used for the administration of this chapter by the department, ~~used for public safety radio communications,~~  
16 if allowable, used for public safety radio communications, if allowable, or transferred in accordance with  
17 ~~subsection-subsections (5) and (6)~~ are allocated as follows:

18 (a) 75% of the account must be deposited in an account for distribution to local and tribal  
19 government entities that host public safety answering points in accordance with 10-4-305 and with rules  
20 adopted by the department in accordance with 10-4-108; ~~and~~

21 (b) ~~25%-7%~~ of the account must be deposited in an account for distribution in the form of grants to  
22 private telecommunications providers, local or tribal government entities that host public safety answering  
23 points, or both in accordance with 10-4-306; and

24 (c) 18% of the account must be deposited in an account for use by the department, WHICH SHALL  
25 CONFER WITH THE 9-1-1 ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PROPOSED EXPENDITURES AND IMPLEMENTATION for a statewide next  
26 generation 9-1-1 system.

27 (3) All money received by the department of revenue pursuant to 10-4-201 must be paid to the  
28 state treasurer for deposit in the appropriate account.

1 (4) The accounts established in subsections (1) and (2) retain interest earned from the investment  
2 of money in the accounts.

3 (5) Each fiscal year from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2030, the state treasurer shall transfer  
4 \$450,000 from the account established in subsection (1) to the 9-1-1 GIS mapping account established in 10-4-  
5 310 by August 15 of each fiscal year.

6 (6) On July 1, 2023, the state treasurer shall transfer the UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED balance  
7 from the account established in subsection (2)(b) into the account established in subsection (2)(c). (Terminates  
8 July 1, 2031--sec. 8, Ch. 200, L. 2021.)

9 **10-4-304. (Effective July 2, 2031) Establishment of 9-1-1 accounts.** (1) Beginning July 1, 2018,  
10 there is established in the state special revenue fund an account ACCOUNTS for fees collected for 9-1-1 services  
11 pursuant to 10-4-201.

12 (2) Funds in the account ACCOUNTS are statutorily appropriated to the department, as provided in  
13 17-7-502. Except as provided in subsection (3), beginning July 1, 2018, funds that are not used for the  
14 administration of this chapter by the department ~~or used for public safety radio communications, if allowable, or~~  
15 used for public safety radio communications, if allowable, are allocated as follows:

16 (a) 75% of the account must be deposited in an account for distribution to local and tribal  
17 government entities that host public safety answering points in accordance with 10-4-305 and with rules  
18 adopted by the department in accordance with 10-4-108; and

19 (b) 25% of the account must be deposited in an account for distribution in the form of grants to  
20 private telecommunications providers, local or tribal government entities that host public safety answering  
21 points, or both in accordance with 10-4-306.

22 (3) Beginning July 1, 2018, all money received by the department of revenue pursuant to 10-4-201  
23 must be paid to the state treasurer for deposit in the appropriate account.

24 (4) The accounts established in subsections (1) and (2) retain interest earned from the investment  
25 of money in the accounts."  
26

27 SECTION 2. SECTION 10-4-306, MCA, IS AMENDED TO READ:

28 "10-4-306. 9-1-1 grants. (1) The department shall, in consultation with the 9-1-1 advisory council

1 ~~created pursuant to 10-4-105, award competitive grants annually using the account established pursuant to 10-~~  
2 ~~4-304(2)(b) for private telecommunications providers and for local and tribal government entities that host public~~  
3 ~~safety answering points. Beginning July 1, 2018, grants must be awarded to private telecommunications~~  
4 ~~providers or to local or tribal government entities that host public safety answering points or to all in accordance~~  
5 ~~with this section and with rules adopted by the department in accordance with 10-4-108.~~

6 ~~(2) In accordance with subsection (3), grants may be awarded to private telecommunications~~  
7 ~~providers and to local or tribal government entities that host public safety answering points for:~~

8 ~~(a) emergency telecommunications systems plans;~~

9 ~~(b) project feasibility studies or project plans;~~

10 ~~(c) the implementation, operation, and maintenance of 9-1-1 systems, equipment, devices, and~~  
11 ~~data; and~~

12 ~~(d) the purchase of services that support 9-1-1 systems.~~

13 ~~(3) In awarding grants, preference must be given to applications in the following order of priority:~~

14 ~~(a) requests by private telecommunications providers;~~

15 ~~(b) or requests by local or tribal government entities that host public safety answering points by~~  
16 ~~working with a private telecommunications provider; and~~

17 ~~(b)(c) requests by local or tribal government entities that host public safety answering points.~~

18 ~~(4) Nothing in this section prevents a local or tribal government entity that hosts a public safety~~  
19 ~~answering point in accordance with this section from:~~

20 ~~(a) providing grant money received by the local or tribal government entity to a private~~  
21 ~~telecommunications provider for 9-1-1 purposes; or~~

22 ~~(b) collaborating with another local or tribal government entity on a joint grant application."~~

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

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