

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 825
2 INTRODUCED BY M. HOPKINS, L. JONES, F. MANDEVILLE, L. BREWSTER, M. YAKAWICH
3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MONTANA HOME OWNERSHIP MEANS
5 ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT; CREATING THE MONTANA HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE PRINCIPAL
6 ACCOUNT IN THE ENTERPRISE FUND TYPE; CREATING A STATE SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT;
7 PROVIDING FOR DUTIES FOR THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF
8 COMMERCE; PROVIDING ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE USE OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR
9 PLANNING GRANTS AND LOANS; ESTABLISHING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING A
10 STATUTORY APPROPRIATION; TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND INTO A STATE
11 SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; AMENDING SECTION 17-7-502,
12 MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

13
14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

15
16 NEW SECTION. Section 1. Short title. [This act] may be cited as the "Home Ownership Means
17 Economic Security Act".

18
19 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Montana housing infrastructure principal account. (1) There is a
20 Montana housing infrastructure principal account within the enterprise fund type established in 17-2-102 to the
21 credit of the board of investments. Money deposited in the account established in this section must be invested
22 by the board of investments as provided by law.

23 (2) The state treasurer shall transfer monthly from this account to the account established in
24 [section 3] the amount of earnings, excluding unrealized gains and losses, required to meet the obligations of
25 the state that are payable from the account. Earnings not transferred to the account established in [section 3]
26 must be retained in the principal account.

27 (3) The principal of the trust must forever remain inviolate unless appropriated by a vote of two-
28 thirds of the members of each house of the legislature.

1

2 **NEW SECTION. Section 7. Eligibility.** For the costs of an infrastructure project to be eligible to be
3 paid by the proceeds of a loan or bonds or other securities of an eligible government unit as defined in 17-5-
4 1604, the infrastructure project must provide for residential development at a minimum gross density of 10 units
5 for each acre.

6

7 **NEW SECTION. Section 8. Department duties -- rulemaking authority -- reporting.** (1) The
8 department of commerce shall administer the planning grant program pursuant to [section 4(1)].

9 (2) The department of commerce shall adopt rules to administer the planning grant program that
10 address the following:

11 (a) reviewing the criteria and the application scoring system to prioritize applications based on
12 planning and zoning reforms;

13 (b) ensuring readiness to proceed with the development;

14 (c) ensuring a subdivision improvement agreement; and

15 (d) reviewing other factors relevant to promoting successful housing developments that meet the
16 density requirements of [section 7].

17 (3) The department of commerce shall, in accordance with 5-11-210, report annually by
18 September 1 to the legislative finance committee on the amounts granted and the status of all grants.

19 (4) The department of commerce may adopt rules to administer the planning grant program.

20

21 **NEW SECTION. Section 9. Financing by board of investments.** (1) The board of investments may
22 make loans from the account established in [section 2] to an eligible government unit as defined in 17-5-1604 or
23 an applicant for residential development to cover the costs of demolition or expanding or extending water,
24 wastewater, storm water, street, road, curb, gutter, and sidewalk infrastructure to serve new or rehabilitated
25 residential development.

26 (2) The board of investments may purchase up to 50% of a bond or other security issued in
27 accordance with state law by an eligible government unit as defined in 17-5-1604 to cover all or a portion of
28 costs of expanding or extending water, wastewater, storm water, street, road, curb, gutter, and sidewalk

1 infrastructure to serve new or rehabilitated residential development at an interest rate to be determined by the
2 board of investments as an investment of the account established in [section 2].

3 (3) The board of investments shall:

4 (a) establish the terms and conditions of the loan, including ~~the an~~ interest rate of ~~the loan~~ 0.5%,
5 with a term not to exceed 20 years;

6 (b) if an eligible government unit is the entity seeking a loan or issuing a bond or other security,
7 require that the eligible government unit waive all impact fees for the developer or the amount of impact fees up
8 to the amount of the loan or bond or other security, whichever amount is smaller; and

9 (c) if an applicant for residential development is the entity seeking a loan, require that the applicant
10 pay all impact fees due to the local government or the amount of impact fees up to the amount of the loan,
11 whichever amount is smaller.

12 (4) The board of investments shall include the amounts loaned and the status of all loans in the
13 report required in 17-5-1650.

14

15 **Section 10.** Section 17-7-502, MCA, is amended to read:

16 **"17-7-502. Statutory appropriations -- definition -- requisites for validity.** (1) A statutory
17 appropriation is an appropriation made by permanent law that authorizes spending by a state agency without
18 the need for a biennial legislative appropriation or budget amendment.

19 (2) Except as provided in subsection (4), to be effective, a statutory appropriation must comply with
20 both of the following provisions:

21 (a) The law containing the statutory authority must be listed in subsection (3).

22 (b) The law or portion of the law making a statutory appropriation must specifically state that a
23 statutory appropriation is made as provided in this section.

24 (3) The following laws are the only laws containing statutory appropriations: 2-17-105; 5-11-120; 5-
25 11-407; 5-13-403; 5-13-404; 7-4-2502; 7-4-2924; 7-32-236; 10-1-108; 10-1-1202; 10-1-1303; 10-2-603; 10-2-
26 807; 10-3-203; 10-3-310; 10-3-312; 10-3-314; 10-3-802; 10-3-1304; 10-4-304; 10-4-310; 15-1-121; 15-1-218;
27 15-31-165; 15-31-1004; 15-31-1005; 15-35-108; 15-36-332; 15-37-117; 15-39-110; 15-65-121; 15-70-101; 15-
28 70-130; 15-70-433; 16-11-119; 16-11-509; 17-3-106; 17-3-212; 17-3-222; 17-3-241; 17-6-101; 17-7-215; 18-11-