1	HOUSE BILL NO. 881
2	INTRODUCED BY E. BUTTREY
3	
4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING LAWS RELATED TO THE BIG SKY
5	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM; REMOVING LOCAL AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS AS ELIGIBLE
6	APPLICANTS; ALLOWING BUSINESSES TO APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE PROGRAM; REMOVING
7	REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO HIGH-POVERTY COUNTIES; REMOVING REQUIREMENTS
8	ASSOCIATED WITH JOB CREATION; REMOVING ALLOCATIONS FOR DISTRIBUTIONS TO LOCAL OR
9	TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS AND CERTIFIED REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS; ALLOWING
10	AWARDS FOR WORKFORCE ACTIVITIES; REVISING A STATUTORY APPROPRIATION ALLOCATION;
11	TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE MICROBUSINESS FINANCE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE
12	ACCOUNT TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STATE SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT; TRANSFERRING
13	FUNDS FROM THE PRIMARY SECTOR BUSINESS TRAINING ACCOUNT TO THE ECONOMIC
14	DEVELOPMENT STATE SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT; TRANSFERRING DEFEDERALIZED ECONOMIC
15	DEVELOPMENT FUNDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE TO THE ECONOMIC
16	DEVELOPMENT STATE SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT; EXTENDING THE SUNSET DATE ON THE COAL
17	SEVERANCE TAX TRUST FUND FOR THE BIG SKY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM; REVISING
18	DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; AMENDING SECTIONS 17-5-703, 17-6-407, 17-6-
19	409, 39-11-205, 90-1-201, 90-1-202, 90-1-203, 90-1-204, AND 90-1-205, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN
20	EFFECTIVE DATE."
21	
22	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
23	
24	Section 1. Section 17-5-703, MCA, is amended to read:
25	"17-5-703. (Temporary) Coal severance tax trust funds. (1) The trust established under Article IX,
26	section 5, of the Montana constitution is composed of the following funds:
27	(a) a coal severance tax bond fund into which the constitutionally dedicated receipts from the coal

28 severance tax must be deposited;



## - 2023 68th Legislature 2023

1	(b)	a Montana coal endowment fund;	
2	(c)	a Montana coal endowment regional water system fund;	
3	(d)	a coal severance tax permanent fund;	
4	(e)	a coal severance tax income fund;	
5	(f)	a big sky economic development fund; and	
6	(g)	a school facilities fund.	
7	(2)	(a) The state treasurer shall determine, on July 1 of each year, the amount necessary to meet	
8	all principal an	d interest payments on bonds payable from the coal severance tax bond fund during the next 12	
9	months and retain that amount in the coal severance tax bond fund.		
10	(b)	The amount in the coal severance tax bond fund in excess of the amount required in	
11	subsection (2)	(a) must be transferred from that fund as provided in subsections (4) and (5).	
12	(3)	(a) The state treasurer shall monthly transfer from the Montana coal endowment fund to the	
13	Montana coal endowment special revenue account the amount of earnings, excluding unrealized gains and		
14	losses, require	ed to meet the obligations of the state that are payable from the account in accordance with 90-6-	
15	710. Earnings	not transferred to the Montana coal endowment special revenue account must be retained in the	
16	Montana coal	endowment fund.	
17	(b)	The state treasurer shall monthly transfer from the Montana coal endowment regional water	
18	system fund to	the Montana coal endowment regional water system special revenue account the amount of	
19	earnings, exclu	uding unrealized gains and losses, required to meet the obligations of the state that are payable	
20	from the accou	int for regional water systems authorized under 90-6-715. Earnings not transferred to the	
21	Montana coal	endowment regional water system special revenue account must be retained in the Montana coal	
22	endowment re	gional water system fund.	
23	(4)	(a) Starting July 1, 2017, the state treasurer shall quarterly transfer to the school facilities fund	
24	provided for in	20-9-380(1) 75% of the amount in the coal severance tax bond fund in excess of the amount that	
25	is specified in	subsection (2) to be retained in the fund. The budget director shall certify to the state treasurer	
26	when the bala	nce of the school facilities fund is \$200 million. Beginning with the quarter following this	
27	certification, th	e state treasurer shall instead transfer to the coal severance tax permanent fund 75% of the	
28	amount in the	coal severance tax bond fund that exceeds the amount that is specified in subsection (2) to be	



1 retained in the fund.

2 (b) The state treasurer shall monthly transfer from the school facilities fund to the account 3 established in 20-9-525 the amount of earnings, excluding unrealized gains and losses, required to meet the 4 obligations of the state that are payable from the account. Earnings not transferred to the account established 5 in 20-9-525 must be retained in the school facilities fund.

6 (5) (a) From July 1, 2005, through June 30, <del>2025</del> <u>2035</u>, the state treasurer shall quarterly transfer 7 to the big sky economic development fund 25% of the amount in the coal severance tax bond fund in excess of 8 the amount that is specified in subsection (2) to be retained in the fund.

9 (b) The state treasurer shall monthly transfer from the big sky economic development fund to the 10 economic development special revenue account, provided for in 90-1-205, the amount of earnings, excluding 11 unrealized gains and losses, required to meet the obligations of the state that are payable from the account in 12 accordance with 90-1-204. Earnings not transferred to the economic development special revenue account 13 must be retained in the big sky economic development fund.

14 (6) Any amount in the coal severance tax bond fund in excess of the amount that is specified in 15 subsection (2)(a) to be retained in the fund and that is not otherwise allocated under this section must be 16 deposited in the coal severance tax permanent fund. (Terminates June 30, 2031--secs. 1 through 3, Ch. 305, L.

17 2015.)

18 17-5-703. (Effective July 1, 2031) Coal severance tax trust funds. (1) The trust established under
 19 Article IX, section 5, of the Montana constitution is composed of the following funds:

20 (a) a coal severance tax bond fund into which the constitutionally dedicated receipts from the coal
21 severance tax must be deposited;

- 22 (b) a Montana coal endowment fund;
- 23 (c) a coal severance tax permanent fund;
- 24 (d) a coal severance tax income fund;
- 25 (e) a big sky economic development fund; and

26 (f) a school facilities fund.

(2) (a) The state treasurer shall determine, on July 1 of each year, the amount necessary to meet
all principal and interest payments on bonds payable from the coal severance tax bond fund during the next 12



1 months and retain that amount in the coal severance tax bond fund.

2 (b) The amount in the coal severance tax bond fund in excess of the amount required in 3 subsection (2)(a) must be transferred from that fund as provided in subsections (4) and (5).

4 (3) The state treasurer shall monthly transfer from the Montana coal endowment fund to the 5 Montana coal endowment special revenue account the amount of earnings, excluding unrealized gains and 6 losses, required to meet the obligations of the state that are payable from the account in accordance with 90-6-7 710. Earnings not transferred to the Montana coal endowment special revenue account must be retained in the 8 Montana coal endowment fund.

9 (4) (a) Starting July 1, 2017, the state treasurer shall quarterly transfer to the school facilities fund 10 provided for in 20-9-380(1) 75% of the amount in the coal severance tax bond fund in excess of the amount that 11 is specified in subsection (2) to be retained in the fund. The budget director shall certify to the state treasurer 12 when the balance of the school facilities fund is \$200 million. Beginning with the quarter following this 13 certification, the state treasurer shall instead transfer to the coal severance tax permanent fund 75% of the 14 amount in the coal severance tax bond fund that exceeds the amount that is specified in subsection (2) to be 15 retained in the fund.

16 (b) The state treasurer shall monthly transfer from the school facilities fund to the account 17 established in 20-9-525 the amount of earnings, excluding unrealized gains and losses, required to meet the 18 obligations of the state that are payable from the account. Earnings not transferred to the account established 19 in 20-9-525 must be retained in the school facilities fund.

(5) (a) From July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2025 2035, the state treasurer shall quarterly transfer
to the big sky economic development fund 25% of the amount in the coal severance tax bond fund in excess of
the amount that is specified in subsection (2) to be retained in the fund.

(b) The state treasurer shall monthly transfer from the big sky economic development fund to the
economic development special revenue account, provided for in 90-1-205, the amount of earnings, excluding
unrealized gains and losses, required to meet the obligations of the state that are payable from the account in
accordance with 90-1-204. Earnings not transferred to the economic development special revenue account
must be retained in the big sky economic development fund.

28

(6) Any amount in the coal severance tax bond fund in excess of the amount that is specified in



1	subsection (2)(	a) to be retained in the fund and that is not otherwise allocated under this section must be	
2	deposited in th	e coal severance tax permanent fund."	
3			
4	Sectio	n 2. Section 17-6-407, MCA, is amended to read:	
5	"17-6-4	107. Microbusiness development loan account and finance program administrative	
6	<del>account</del> crit	eria limitations. (1) (a) There is in the state special revenue fund a microbusiness	
7	development lo	pan account into which funds allocated for that purpose and money received in repayment of the	
8	principal of dev	relopment loans-must be deposited.	
9	(b)	The department may make development loans from the account to a certified microbusiness	
10	development c	orporation.	
11	<del>(c) In</del>	terest earned on the account must be deposited in the microbusiness finance program	
12	administrative	account established in subsection (2).	
13	(2)	There is in the state special revenue fund a microbusiness finance program administrative	
14	account into w	nich an economic development state special revenue account created in 90-1-205 in which the	
15	following money must be deposited:		
16	(a)	all interest received on development loans received directly from microbusiness development	
17	corporations;		
18	(b)	service charges or fees received from certified microbusiness development corporations;	
19	(c)	grants, donations, and private or public income; and	
20	(d)	all interest earned on money in the account and interest earned on money in the account	
21	provided for in subsection (1)(a).		
22	<del>(3)</del> M	loney in the administrative account may be transferred to the development loan account or be	
23	used to pay the	e costs of the program, including personnel, travel, equipment, supplies, consulting costs, and	
24	other operating	expenses of the program.	
25	<del>(4)<u>(3)</u></del>	Subject to subsection (1), a certified microbusiness development corporation that receives a	
26	development lo	oan may apply for an additional loan if the applicant meets the performance criteria established	
27	by the departm	ient.	
28	<del>(5)</del> (4)	To establish the criteria for making development loans, the department shall consider:	

1	(a)	the plan for providing services to microbusinesses;
2	(b)	the scope of services to be provided by the certified microbusiness development corporation;
3	(c)	the geographic representation of all regions of the state, including urban, rural, and tribal
4	communities;	
5	(d)	the plan for providing service to minorities, women, and low-income persons;
6	(e)	the ability of the corporation to provide business training and technical assistance to
7	microbusiness	clients;
8	(f)	the ability of the corporation, with a plan, to:
9	(i)	monitor and provide financial oversight of recipients of microbusiness loans;
10	(ii)	administer a revolving loan fund; and
11	(iii)	investigate and qualify financing proposals and to service credit accounts;
12	(g)	sources and sufficiency of operating funds for the certified microbusiness development
13	corporation; and	
14	(h)	the intent of the corporation, with a plan and written indications of local institutional support, to
15	provide services to a designated multicounty region of the state.	
16	<del>(6)</del> (5)	Development loan funds may be used by a certified microbusiness development corporation to:
17	(a)	satisfy matching fund requirements for other state, federal, or private funding only if funding is
18	intended and used for the purpose of providing or enhancing the certified microbusiness development	
19	corporation's ability to provide and administer loans, technical assistance, or management training to	
20	microbusinesses;	
21	(b)	establish a revolving loan fund from which the certified microbusiness development corporation
22	may make loar	ns to qualified microbusinesses, provided that a single loan does not exceed \$100,000 and the
23	outstanding ba	lance of all loans to a microbusiness or a project participated in by more than one microbusiness
24	or to two or more microbusinesses in which any one person holds more than a 20% equity share does not	
25	exceed \$100,0	00;
26	(c)	establish a guarantee fund from which the certified microbusiness development corporation
27	may guarantee	e loans made by financial institutions to qualified microbusinesses. However, a single guarantee
28	may not excee	d \$100,000, and the aggregate of all guarantees to a microbusiness or a project participated in



1 by more than one microbusiness or to two or more microbusinesses in which any one person holds more than a

2 20% equity share may not exceed \$100,000.

3 (7)(6) Development loan funds may not be:

4 (a) loaned for relending or investment in stocks, bonds, or other securities or for property not

5 intended for use in production by the recipient of the loan; or

6 (b) used to:

7 (i) refinance a nonperforming loan held by a financial institution; or

8 (ii) pay the operating costs of a certified microbusiness development corporation. However,

9 interest income earned from the proceeds of a development loan may be used to pay operating expenses.

10 (8)(7) Certified microbusiness development corporations are required to contribute cash from other

11 sources to leverage and secure development loans from the program. Contributions provided by the

12 corporation must be on a ratio of at least \$1 from other sources for each \$6 from the program. These

13 contributions may come from a public or private source other than the program and may be in the form of equity

14 capital, loans, or grants.

15 (9)(8) Development loans must be made pursuant to a development loan agreement and may be 16 amortization or term loans, bear interest at less than the market rate, be renewable, be callable, and contain 17 other terms and conditions considered appropriate by the department and that are consistent with the purposes 18 of and with rules promulgated to implement this part.

19 (10)(9) Each certified microbusiness development corporation that receives a development loan under 20 this part shall provide the department with an annual audit from an independent certified public accountant. The 21 audit must cover all of the microbusiness development corporation's activities and must include verification of 22 compliance with requirements specific to the microbusiness program.

(11)(10) A certified microbusiness development corporation that is in default for nonperformance under
 rules established by the department may be required to refund the outstanding balance of development loans
 awarded prior to the default declaration. A development loan is secured by a first lien on all funds and all
 receivables administered under the authority of the microbusiness development act by the corporation receiving
 the loan."

28



1	Section 3. Section 17-6-409, MCA, is amended to read:
2	"17-6-409. Authority to accept funds funding authorization. (1) The department may accept
3	grants, donations, and other private and public income, including payments of interest on loans made by the
4	department under the provisions of this part and fees charged by the department. The department shall deposit
5	all money received under this section in the microbusiness finance program administrative account established
6	in 17-6-407 economic development state special revenue account established in 90-1-205.
7	(2) The money in the microbusiness finance program administrative account may be appropriated for
8	the purposes stated in this part."
9	
10	Section 4. Section 39-11-205, MCA, is amended to read:
11	"39-11-205. Primary sector business training account. (1) There is an account in the state special
12	revenue fund called the primary sector business training account.
13	(2) On July 1 of each year, the state treasurer shall transfer any funds appropriated to the
14	department of commerce primary sector business training program from the general fund to the primary sector
15	business training account.
16	(3) Money-Subject to legislative fund transfer, the money deposited or retained in the account must
17	be used for:
18	(a) the primary sector business training program;
19	(b) program costs; and
20	(c) expenses incurred in administering the primary sector business training program.
21	(4) Money deposited in the account must be retained and may not revert to the general fund.
22	(5) All interest earned on money in the account must be retained and used for the purposes
23	outlined in subsection (3)."
24	
25	Section 5. Section 90-1-201, MCA, is amended to read:
26	"90-1-201. Big sky economic development program definitions. (1) (a) There is a big sky
27	economic development program that consists of:
28	(i) the big sky economic development fund established in 17-5-703; and



1	(ii)	the economic development special revenue account provided for in 90-1-205.	
2	(b)	Interest and income from the big sky economic development fund may be used to administer	
3	the big sky eco	nomic development program and to provide financial assistance for qualified economic	
4	development p	urposes under this part.	
5	(2)	As used in this part, the following definitions apply:	
6	<del>(a) "(</del>	Certified regional development corporation" has the meaning provided in 90-1-116.	
7	<del>(b)<u>(a)</u></del>	"Department" means the department of commerce provided for in 2-15-1801.	
8	<del>(c)</del> (b)	"Economic development organization" means:	
9	(i)	(A) a private, nonprofit corporation, as provided in Title 35, chapter 2, that is exempt from	
10	taxation under	section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6); or	
11	(B) an entity certified by the department under 90-1-116; or		
12	<del>(C) a</del>	n entity established by a local government; or	
13	(ii)	an entity actively engaged in economic development and business assistance work in a region	
14	of the state.		
15	<del>(d) "</del> E	mployee benefits" means health, welfare, and pension contributions that meet the requirements	
16	of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, 29 U.S.C. 1001, et seq.		
17	<u>(c)</u>	"Eligible business" means a for-profit or nonprofit business OR TRIBALLY OWNED BUSINESS that is	
18	engaged in bus	siness activities in the state that will provide a significant positive economic impact to the	
19	<u>community, rec</u>	gion, or state.	
20	<del>(e)</del> "⊧	ligh-poverty county" means a county in this state that has a poverty rate greater than Montana's	
21	average povert	y rate as determined by the U.S. bureau of the census estimates for the most current year	
22	available.		
23	<del>(f) "L</del> e	ocal government" means a county, consolidated government, city, town, or district or local public	
24	entity with the a	authority to spend or receive public funds.	
25	<del>(g) ד" (g)</del>	ribal government" means one of the federally recognized tribal governments of Montana."	
26			
27	Sectio	n 6. Section 90-1-202, MCA, is amended to read:	
28	"90-1-2	202. Purpose. (1) The legislature finds and declares that economic development is a public	



HB0881.2 1 purpose. The purpose of the big sky economic development program is to assist in economic development for 2 Montana that will: 3 create good-paying jobs for Montana residents; (a) 4 (b) promote long-term, stable economic growth in Montana; 5 (c) encourage local economic development organizations; 6 (d) create partnerships between the state, local governments, tribal governments, and local economic 7 development organizations that are interested in pursuing these same economic development goals; 8 <del>(e)</del>(c) retain or expand existing businesses: 9 provide a better life for future generations through greater economic growth and prosperity in <del>(f)</del>(d) 10 Montana; and encourage workforce development, including workforce training and job creation, in high-11 <del>(g)</del>(e) 12 poverty counties by providing targeted assistance. 13 (2)As provided in 30-20-206, manufacturing ammunition components is a qualified economic 14 development purpose." 15 16 Section 7. Section 90-1-203, MCA, is amended to read: 17 "90-1-203. Types of financial assistance available. (1) The department shall provide for and make 18 grants and loans available to local governments and tribal governments eligible businesses for economic 19 development projects and to certified regional development corporations from the money in the economic 20 development special revenue account provided for in 90-1-205. 21 (2)A grant or loan may not be used for a project that would result in the transfer or relocation of 22 jobs from one part of the state to another part of the state."

23

24 Section 8. Section 90-1-204, MCA, is amended to read:

25 "90-1-204. Priorities for funding -- rulemaking. (1) Under the big sky economic development 26 program provided for in 90-1-201, the department must receive proposals for grants and loans from local 27 governments and tribal governments eligible businesses AND MAY ACCEPT PROPOSALS FROM ECONOMIC

28 DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND PREFERRED LENDERS ON BEHALF OF BUSINESSES. A local government shall



1	Eligible businesses may work with an economic development organization on a proposal. The department shall
2	work with the local government eligible businesses and the economic development organization or with an
3	applicant tribal government in preparing cost estimates for a proposed project. In reviewing proposals, the
4	department may consult with other state agencies with expertise pertinent to the proposal.
5	(2) (a) The department shall adopt rules necessary to implement the big sky economic
6	development program prioritizing loans over grants when reasonable IN COLLABORATION WITH ECONOMIC
7	DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVELY SERVING COMMUNITIES. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER LOW-INTEREST
8	LOANS, FORGIVABLE LOANS, AND GRANTS WHEN ADOPTING RULES. In adopting rules, the department shall look to
9	the rules adopted for the Montana coal endowment program and other similar state programs. To the extent
10	feasible, the department shall make the rules compatible with those other programs. To the extent feasible, the
11	department shall employ an approach pertaining to the use of funds so that, except as provided in subsection
12	(2)(b), the needs of rural areas are balanced with the needs of the state's urban centers.
13	(b) For high-poverty counties, the department shall employ an approach pertaining to the use of funds
14	that is intended to lower poverty levels in the county to a percentage at which the county no longer is defined as
15	a high-poverty county.
16	(c)(b) The rules must provide for the types of uses of funds available under the big sky economic
17	development program. The types of uses of funds by these funds include but are not limited to:
18	(i) local governments and tribal governments include but are not limited to:
19	(A)(i) a reduction in the interest rate of a commercial loan for the expansion of a basic sector
20	company;
21	(B)(ii) a grant or low-interest loan for relocation expenses for a basic sector company; and
22	(C)(iii) rental assistance or lease buy-downs for a relocation or expansion project for a basic sector
23	company;
24	(iv) short-term working capital loans; and
25	(v) workforce activities or job creation; AND
26	(VI) PLANNING PROJECTS THAT WOULD PROVIDE SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC BENEFIT TO REQUIRE MATCHING
27	FUNDS TO BE CONSIDERED.
28	(ii) a certified regional development corporation or a tribal government include:



1	(A) support for business improvement districts and central business district redevelopment;
2	(B) industrial development;
3	(C) feasibility studies;
4	(D) creation and maintenance of baseline community profiles; and
5	(E) matching funds for federal funds, including but not limited to brownfields funds and natural
6	resource damage funds.
7	(d) (i) The rules must provide for distribution methods for financial assistance available to local
8	governments and tribal governments. The rules must provide for distribution based upon the number of jobs
9	expected to be created because of the funding.
10	(ii) Funding may not exceed \$5,000 for each expected job, except that funding for a project in a high-
11	poverty county may not exceed \$7,500 for each expected job.
12	(iii)(c) The rules must require equal matching funds for a grant or loan, except that the rules for a
13	grant or a loan in a high-poverty county may allow a 50% to 100% match requirement for the high-poverty
14	<del>county</del> .
15	(e)(d) The rules may provide for greater incentives for a high-poverty rural county.
16	(f) The rules must provide for the full or partial repayment of a grant if the new jobs or some of the
17	new jobs for which a grant is given are not created.
18	(g) A grant or loan under the big sky economic development program may be made only for a new job
19	that has an average weekly wage that meets or exceeds the lesser of 170% of Montana's current minimum
20	wage or the current average weekly wage of the county in which the employees are to be principally employed.
21	For purposes of this subsection (2)(g) and subject to subsection (2)(h), the department may consider the value
22	of employee benefits in determining whether the wage requirements have been met.
23	(h) Nothing in subsection (2)(g) exempts an employer from minimum wage requirements."
24	
25	Section 9. Section 90-1-205, MCA, is amended to read:
26	"90-1-205. Economic development special revenue account. (1) There is an economic
27	development state special revenue account. The account receives earnings from the big sky economic
28	development fund as provided in 17-5-703. The money in the account may be used only as provided in this



1	part.	
2	(2) The money in the account is statutorily appropriated, as provided in 17-7-502, to the	
3	department. Of the The money that is deposited in the account that is not must be used as provided in this part,	
4	for administrative expenses, or for other economic development purposes:	
5	(a) 75% must be allocated for distribution to local governments and tribal governments to be used for	
6	job creation efforts; and	
7	(b) 25% must be allocated for distribution to certified regional development corporations, economic	
8	development organizations that are located in a county that is not part of a certified regional development	
9	corporation, and tribal governments."	
10		
11	NEW SECTION. Section 10. Fund transfers to economic development state special revenue	
12	account. By September 1, 2023, the state treasurer shall transfer all funds from the following accounts to the	
13	economic development state special revenue account established in 90-1-205:	
14	(1) the microbusiness finance program administrative account established in 17-6-407; and	
15	(2) the primary sector business training account established in 39-11-205.	
16		
17	NEW SECTION. Section 11. Transfer of defederalized economic development funds. (1) By	
18	September 1, 2023, AND BY SEPTEMBER 1 OF SUBSEQUENT YEARS IN WHICH FUNDS BECOME AVAILABLE, the state	
19	treasurer shall transfer the following defederalized funds to the economic development state special revenue	
20	account established in 90-1-205:	
21	(a) all American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, funds authorized by the American	
22	rescue plan economic transformation and stabilization and workforce development advisory commission in	
23	sections 11 and 12, Chapter 401, Laws of 2021, for use by the department of commerce for economic	
24	development programs;	
25	(b) all state small business credit initiative funds authorized by section 15, Chapter 401, Laws of	
26	2021, and section 3301 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2;	
27	(c) all U.S. economic development administration revolving loan funds administered at the	
28	department of commerce; and	

- 13 -



1	(d)	any other defederalized economic development funds administered at the department of
2	commerce.	
3	(2)	For the purposes of this section, "defederalized" means the federal government has released
4	the federal rec	uirements associated with specific awarded funds; and therefore these funds are no longer
5	considered fee	deral funds and are released of any former obligations of the federal award.
6		
7	NEW	SECTION. Section 12. Notification to tribal governments. The secretary of state shall send a
8	copy of [this a	ct] to each federally recognized tribal government in Montana.
9		
10	NEW	SECTION. Section 13. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2023.
11		- END -

