

\*\*\*\* Bill No. \*\*\*\*

Introduced By \*\*\*\*\*

By Request of the State-Tribal Relations Committee

A Bill for an Act entitled: "An Act creating the reentry cultural programming grant program; defining "cultural programming"; providing an appropriation; and providing an effective date."

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Montana:

**NEW SECTION. Section 1. Reentry cultural programming grant program.** (1) There is a reentry cultural programming grant program for the purposes of:

(a) promoting the use of cultural programming by entities that serve American Indian individuals who are involved with the state or tribal criminal justice system; and

(b) reducing recidivism and increasing community reintegration success rates.

(2) City, county, and tribal governments, community corrections facilities and programs, and community-based organizations working with offenders are eligible to receive reentry cultural programming grant funds.

(3) (a) For the purposes of this section, the term "cultural programming" means the use of multifaceted, traditional practices to provide recovery support, recidivism prevention, and community resource referrals for American Indian offenders who are supervised in a community or are released or will be released

from incarceration.

(b) Programs must:

(i) train individuals to create and maintain a network of social, emotional, and spiritual support upon release; and

(ii) support an offender while reconnecting with families, cultural traditions, and communities.

(c) Programs may include:

(i) the use of peer support; and

(ii) training components for families and community members who support the offenders.

(4) If a county receives a reentry cultural programming grant pursuant to this section and the county encompasses any portion of a reservation of a tribe, the county must partner and consult with the governing body of that tribe and demonstrate and ensure adequate cultural expertise and understanding of cultural programming by the persons providing programming to offenders.

(5) The board of crime control shall:

(a) actively seek federal grant money that may be used for the purposes of this section;

(b) produce a biennial report summarizing the grants provided, how the grant money was spent, and the program data and information reported by grant recipients; and

(c) report biennially to the law and justice interim committee and the state-tribal relations committee regarding the status and performance of the reentry cultural programming grant program established in this section and any recommendations for changes to the program.

(6) The board of crime control may use up to 10% of funds appropriated for the purposes of this section for costs incurred to administer the program.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Appropriation.** For each year of the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, there is appropriated \$150,000 from the general fund to the board of crime control to implement the reentry cultural programming grant program established in [section 1].

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. {standard} Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 44, chapter 7, part 1, and the provisions of Title 44, chapter 7, part 1, apply to [section 1].

NEW SECTION. **Section 4. {standard} Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2019.

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