

1 \*\*\*\* BILL NO. \*\*\*\*

2 INTRODUCED BY \*\*\*\*

3 BY REQUEST OF THE \*\*\*\*

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5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TEMPORARILY REDIRECTING AND STATUTORILY  
6 APPROPRIATING TECHNOLOGY FUNDING TO E-RATE BROADBAND MATCHING FUNDS; PROVIDING  
7 AN APPROPRIATION; AMENDING SECTION 20-9-534, MCA; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE;  
8 PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY DATE; PROVIDING A TERMINATION DATE."

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

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12 **Section 1.** Section 20-9-534, MCA, is amended to read:

13 **"20-9-534. Statutory appropriation for school technology purposes.** (1) The amount of \$1 million  
14 a year is statutorily appropriated, as provided in 17-7-502, from the school facility and technology account  
15 established in 20-9-516 ~~for grants for school technology purposes to the department of commerce Office of~~  
16 ~~Public Instruction for providing funds for schools to use as:~~

17 ~~(a) state matching funds for special construction under the federal e-rate broadband program pursuant~~  
18 ~~to 47 CFR 54.505, provided that none of the state matching funds may not be used by schools for self-~~  
19 ~~construction of their own or portions of their own networks; or~~

20 ~~(b) by establishing or improving broadband connectivity for schools or pupils whose household income~~  
21 ~~is at or below 130 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines in consultation with trustees and private broadband~~  
22 ~~providers.~~

23 ~~(2) By the third Friday in July, the superintendent of public instruction shall allocate the annual~~  
24 ~~statutory appropriation for school technology purposes to each district based on the ratio that each district's~~  
25 ~~BASE budget bears to the statewide BASE budget amount for all school districts multiplied by the amount of~~  
26 ~~money provided in 20-9-343 for the purposes of 20-9-533."~~

27 ~~(3) For the purposes of this section "broadband" means high-speed, switched, broadband~~  
28 ~~telecommunications capability that enables users to originate and receive high quality voice, data, graphics,~~

1 and video telecommunications using any technology.

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3 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2021

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5 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Applicability.** [This act] applies to school fiscal years beginning on or  
6 after July 1, 2021.

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8 NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Termination.** [This act] terminates June 30, 2023.

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