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_____ BILL NO. _____
INTRODUCED BY _____

BY REQUEST OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTERIM COMMITTEE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF GRANTS ASSISTANCE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION; ESTABLISHING A PURPOSE AND DUTIES OF THE OFFICE;
PROVIDING THAT THE OFFICE OF GRANTS ASSISTANCE SHALL COLLABORATE WITH LOCAL
GOVERNMENTS, NONPROFITS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, STATE AGENCIES, AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS;
ESTABLISHING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION; AND PROVIDING AN
EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

**NEW SECTION. Section 1. Grants assistance office -- purpose -- duties -- collaboration --
report.** (1) There is an office of grants assistance in the department of administration.

(2) The purpose of the office is to assist local governments, nonprofits, school districts, state
agencies, and tribal governments in securing federal and state grants by:

(a) establishing and maintaining a funding opportunities portal that includes every grant a state
agency administers and:

(i) the title of the grant opportunity;

(ii) the revenue source allocated to fund the grant;

(iii) the purpose of the grant;

(iv) a brief description of the grant;

(v) eligibility requirements, matching fund requirements, and geographic limitations; and

(vi) deadlines and other important dates; and

(b) offering technical assistance in researching, applying for, managing, and closing out grants.

(3) The office shall coordinate with local governments, nonprofits, school districts, state agencies,

1 and tribal governments to identify strategies to:

2 (a) reduce duplicative efforts;

3 (b) minimize administrative burden; and

4 (c) maximize access to grants in the state.

5 (4) By July 1 of each even-numbered year, the department shall submit a report to the local

6 government interim committee in accordance with 5-11-210. The report must include a description of the

7 services provided by the office of grants assistance over the biennium, the cost of services rendered, the

8 number of entities served, an estimate of federal funding secured by entities served, and strategies identified to

9 reduce duplicative efforts, minimize administrative burden, and maximize access to grants in the state.

10 (5) By July 1 of each fiscal year, each state agency shall provide the office of grants assistance all
11 information necessary to update and maintain the funding opportunities portal.

12

13 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Appropriation.** (1) There is appropriated \$500,000 from the general fund

14 to the department of administration for the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, for the purpose of paying for the
15 costs to carry out the provisions of [this act].

16 (2) The legislature intends that the appropriation in this section be considered part of the ongoing
17 base for the next legislative session.

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19 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Notification to tribal governments.** The secretary of state shall send a
20 copy of [this act] to each federally recognized tribal government in Montana.

21

22 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
23 integral part of Title 2, chapter 15, part 10, and the provisions of Title 2, chapter 15, part 10, apply to [section 1].

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25 **NEW SECTION. Section 5. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2027.

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