

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 866

2 INTRODUCED BY M. ROMANO, L. SMITH, L. DEMING, J. COHENOUR, N. DURAM, P. ELVERUM, A.
3 GRIFFITH, C. KEOGH, M. MARLER, R. MINER, M. NIKOLAKAKOS, J. REAVIS, P. STRAND, M. THIEL

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5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING THE TERM "EMOTIONAL DISABILITY" TO BE USED
6 INSTEAD OF THE TERM "EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE" AS IT RELATES TO SPECIAL EDUCATION;
7 PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

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11 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Emotional disability -- terms.** The term "emotional disability" may be
12 used in place of the term "emotional disturbance" as defined in 34 CFR 300.8(c)(4), as that term relates to the
13 provision of special education services, when used in the Montana Code Annotated or the Administrative Rules
14 of Montana.

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16 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Appropriation.** There is appropriated \$100 from the general fund to the
17 office of public instruction for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, to communicate the allowance provided for
18 in [section 1] in the office's publications related to the provision of special education.

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20 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
21 integral part of Title 20, chapter 7, part 4, and the provisions of Title 20, chapter 7, part 4, apply to [section 1].

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23 NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2025.

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