

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 848

2 INTRODUCED BY D. BAUM, M. DUNWELL, S. MORIGEAU, D. FERN, C. POPE, D. HARVEY, E. BUTTREY,  
3 E. BYRNE, B. CARTER, B. CLOSE, J. ISALY, D. JOY, K. KORTUM, M. MARLER, E. MATTHEWS, R. MINER,  
4 L. MUSZKIEWICZ, G. PARRY, J. REAVIS, J. SECKINGER, P. STRAND, P. TUSS, J. WEBER, Z. WIRTH, Z.

5 ZEPHYR

6  
7 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING FUNDING FOR REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITIES;  
8 PROVIDING THAT A PORTION OF ~~RENTAL CAR SALES AND USE THE RAILROAD CAR TAX IS~~  
9 DISTRIBUTED TO REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITIES; PROVIDING PURPOSES FOR WHICH REGIONAL RAIL  
10 AUTHORITIES MAY USE THE FUNDING; PROVIDING A STATUTORY APPROPRIATION; AMENDING  
11 SECTIONS ~~15-65-121, 15-68-820, 17-7-502, 22-3-1303, 22-3-1304, AND 22-3-1307~~ 7-14-1624, 15-23-215,  
12 AND 17-7-502, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE."

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

15  
16 (Refer to Introduced Bill)

17 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert:

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19 NEW SECTION. Section 1. Big sky rail account. (1) There is a big sky rail account in the state  
20 special revenue fund established in 17-2-102. The account consists of money deposited in the account  
21 pursuant to 15-23-215.

22 (2) The money in the account is statutorily appropriated, as provided in 17-7-502, to the  
23 department of transportation.

24 (3) The department of transportation shall annually distribute by August 1 money in the account to  
25 regional rail authorities established pursuant to 7-14-1621 before January 1, 2025. A regional rail authority shall  
26 use the money for the purposes provided for in 7-14-1624(2).

27  
28 **Section 2.** Section 7-14-1624, MCA, is amended to read:

**Amendment - 2nd Reading-yellow - Requested by: Ed Byrne - (H) Committee of the Whole**

- 2025

69th Legislature 2025

Drafter: Casey Pallister,

HB0848.002.001

113, and 81-7-106 terminates June 30, 2029; pursuant to sec. 9, Ch. 44, L. 2023, the inclusion of 15-1-142 terminates December 31, 2025; pursuant to sec. 10, Ch. 47, L. 2023, the inclusion of 15-1-2302 terminates June 30, 2025; pursuant to sec. 2, Ch. 374, L. 2023, the inclusion of 10-3-802 terminates June 30, 2031; pursuant to sec. 12, Ch. 558, L. 2023, the inclusion of 20-9-250 terminates December 31, 2029; pursuant to sec. 4, Ch. 621, L. 2023, the inclusion of 22-1-327 terminates July 1, 2029; pursuant to sec. 24, Ch. 722, L. 2023, the inclusion of 17-7-133 terminates June 30, 2027; pursuant to sec. 10, Ch. 758, L. 2023, the inclusion of 44-4-1506 terminates June 30, 2027; and pursuant to sec. 10, Ch. 764, L. 2023, the inclusion of 15-1-143 terminates December 31, 2025.)"

**NEW SECTION. Section 5. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 60, chapter 11, part 1, and the provisions of Title 60, chapter 11, part 1, apply to [section 1].

**NEW SECTION. Section 6. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2025.

**NEW SECTION. Section 7. Termination.** [This act] terminates July 1, 2031.

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