

HOUSE BILL NO. 871

INTRODUCED BY S. FITZPATRICK

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROHIBITING A MUNICIPALITY FROM REQUIRING A ZONING CHANGE BEFORE A PARCEL OF LAND IS ALLOWED TO CONNECT TO A MUNICIPAL WATER OR SEWER SYSTEM; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION; AMENDING SECTION 7-13-4312, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

Section 1. Section 7-13-4312, MCA, is amended to read:

"7-13-4312. Authorization to furnish water and sewer services to persons located outside municipality -- prohibition. (1) A city council that owns and operates a municipal water system, a municipal sewer system, or both, to furnish water and sewer services to the inhabitants of a city as a public utility may furnish water from the water system and sewage services from the sewer system to the inhabitants or to any person, factory, industry, or producer of farm or other products located outside of the corporate limits of the city at reasonable rates filed by the city or town council. The city council may make collections to provide water and sewer services in the same manner as collections are made within the corporate limits.

(2) The city council may not require that a parcel of land located outside of the corporate limits of the city change from single family zoning to multifamily zoning BE DEVELOPED AT A HIGHER DENSITY THAN ALLOWED UNDER EXISTING COUNTY ZONING REGULATIONS COVERING THE PARCEL in order to connect to a municipal water system or a municipal sewer system."

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated \$1,000 from the general fund to the department of environmental quality for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, to update documents related to municipal water and sewer systems.

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2025.

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