

**Amendment - 1st Reading/2nd House-blue - Requested by: Llew Jones - (S) Education and Cultural Resources**

- 2025

69th Legislature 2025

Drafter: Pad McCracken,

HB0515.002.001

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 515

2 INTRODUCED BY L. REKSTEN, E. ALBUS, E. TILLEMAN, D. BEDEY, M. BERTOGLIO, L. JONES, G.

3 LAMMERS, G. PARRY

4

5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING LAWS RELATED TO FUNDING FOR

6 SCHOOL FACILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY; CONSOLIDATING TWO EXISTING STATE SPECIAL REVENUE

7 ACCOUNTS AND THEIR VARIOUS REVENUE SOURCES AND PRIORITIZING THE FUNDING OF

8 PROGRAMS; INCREASING THE SCHOOL MAJOR MAINTENANCE AMOUNT AND THE MULTIPLIER IN

9 THE ~~STATE~~ SCHOOL MAJOR MAINTENANCE AID FORMULA TO MAKE MORE MONEY AVAILABLE TO

10 SCHOOL DISTRICTS FOR MAJOR MAINTENANCE PROJECTS WITHOUT IMPACTING PROPERTY

11 TAXPAYERS; REVISING STATUTES RELATED TO THE STATE SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY PAYMENT;

12 REMOVING OUTDATED LANGUAGE RELATED TO THE NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

13 PAYMENT AND PROVIDING THAT THE PAYMENT CAN SUPPORT ~~STATE~~ SCHOOL MAJOR

14 MAINTENANCE AID AND DEBT SERVICE ASSISTANCE; REVISING AN EXISTING STATUTORY

15 APPROPRIATION; PROVIDING FOR TRANSFERS; AMENDING SECTIONS 17-5-703, 17-7-502, 20-6-702,

16 20-9-380, 20-9-502, 20-9-516, 20-9-525, 20-9-533, 20-9-622, AND 20-9-635, MCA; REPEALING SECTION 20-

17 9-534, MCA; AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES."

18

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

20

21 **Section 1.** Section 17-5-703, MCA, is amended to read:

22 **"17-5-703. (Temporary) Coal severance tax trust funds.** (1) The trust established under Article IX,

23 section 5, of the Montana constitution is composed of the following funds:

24 (a) a coal severance tax bond fund into which the constitutionally dedicated receipts from the coal

25 severance tax must be deposited;

26 (b) a Montana coal endowment fund;

27 (c) a Montana coal endowment regional water system fund;

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1 20-9-534. Statutory appropriation for school technology purposes.

2

3 NEW SECTION. Section 12. Transfer of funds. (1) No later than August 15, 2025, there is

4 transferred from the general fund to the school facilities fund established in 20-9-380 the amount necessary to

5 bring the fund balance in the school facilities fund to ~~\$300~~ \$250 million.

6 (2) Any unencumbered and unexpended fund balance in the school major maintenance aid

7 account on June 30, 2025, must be transferred to the school facility and technology account provided for in 20-

8 9-516.

9

10 NEW SECTION. Section 13. Effective dates. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), [this act] is  
11 effective on passage and approval.

12 (2) [Sections 1 through 11] are effective July 1, 2025.

13 - END -