

HOUSE BILL NO. 919

INTRODUCED BY K. WALSH, L. JONES, E. TILLEMAN

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE PROVISIONS OF HOUSE BILL NO. 2;  
REQUIRING THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS TO PERFORM DUTIES IN A RESTRICTED FIDUCIARY FUND  
TYPE; TEMPORARILY ALLOWING USE OF THE ACCOMMODATIONS TAX FOR HISTORICAL SITES AT  
REEDER'S ALLEY AND VIRGINIA CITY; PROVIDING FOR A STUDY ON COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS;  
AMENDING ~~SECTION~~ SECTIONS 2-15-1808 AND 15-65-121, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE  
DATE."

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

**Section 1.** Section 2-15-1808, MCA, is amended to read:

**"2-15-1808. Board of investments -- allocation -- composition -- quasi-judicial.** (1) There is a  
board of investments within the department of commerce.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the board is allocated to the department for  
administrative purposes as prescribed in 2-15-121. The board may employ a chief investment officer and an  
executive director who have general responsibility for selection and management of the board's staff and for  
direct investment and economic development activities. The board shall prescribe the duties and annual  
salaries of the chief investment officer, executive director, and six professional staff positions. The chief  
investment officer, executive director, and six professional staff serve at the pleasure of the board.

(3) The board is composed of nine members appointed by the governor, as prescribed in 2-15-  
124, and two ex officio, nonvoting members. The members are:

(a) one member from the public employees' retirement board, provided for in 2-15-1009, and one  
member from the teachers' retirement board provided for in 2-15-1010. If either member of the respective  
retirement boards ceases to be a member of the retirement board, the position of that member on the board of  
investments is vacant, and the governor shall fill the vacancy in accordance with 2-15-124.

(b) seven members who will provide a balance of professional expertise and public interest and

1 accountability, who are informed and experienced in the subject of investments, and who are representatives  
2 of:

3 (i) the financial community;

4 (ii) small business;

5 (iii) agriculture; and

6 (iv) labor; and

7 (c) two ex officio, nonvoting legislative liaisons to the board, of which one must be a senator  
8 appointed by the president of the senate and one must be a representative appointed by the speaker of the  
9 house. The liaisons may not be from the same political party. Preference in appointments is to be given to  
10 legislators who have a background in investments or finance. The legislative liaisons shall serve from  
11 appointment through each even-numbered calendar year and may attend all board meetings. Legislative  
12 liaisons appointed pursuant to this subsection (3)(c) are entitled to compensation and expenses, as provided in  
13 5-2-302, to be paid by the legislative council.

14 (4) The board is designated as a quasi-judicial board for the purposes of 2-15-124.

15 (5) The board shall perform all duties outlined in 2-15-121 subject only to the restrictions of Title  
16 17, chapters 5 and 6, in a restricted fiduciary fund type pursuant to 17-2-102(3)."

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18 **SECTION 2. SECTION 15-65-121, MCA, IS AMENDED TO READ:**

19 **"15-65-121. (Temporary) Distribution of tax proceeds.** (1) The proceeds of the tax imposed by 15-  
20 65-111 must, in accordance with the provisions of 17-2-124, be deposited in an account in the state special  
21 revenue fund to the credit of the department. The department may spend from that account in accordance with  
22 an expenditure appropriation by the legislature based on an estimate of the costs of collecting and disbursing  
23 the proceeds of the tax. Before allocating the balance of the tax proceeds in accordance with the provisions of  
24 17-2-124 and as provided in subsections (2)(a) through ~~(2)(j)~~ (2)(k) of this section, the department shall  
25 determine the expenditures by state agencies for in-state lodging for each reporting period and deduct 4% of  
26 that amount from the tax proceeds received each reporting period. The department shall distribute the portion  
27 of the 4% that was paid with federal funds to the department of administration for return to the federal  
28 government and deposit 30% of the amount deducted less the portion paid with federal funds in the state

1 general fund.

2 (2) The balance of the tax proceeds received each reporting period and not deducted pursuant to  
3 the expenditure appropriation, deposited in the state general fund, distributed to agencies that paid the tax with  
4 federal funds, or deposited in the heritage preservation and development account must be transferred to an  
5 account in the state special revenue fund to the credit of the department of commerce for the purposes  
6 designated under 90-1-122, to the emergency lodging for victims of domestic violence or human trafficking  
7 account, to the Montana historical interpretation state special revenue account, to the Montana historical  
8 society, to the university system, to the state-tribal economic development commission, and to the department  
9 of fish, wildlife, and parks, as follows:

10 (a) 1% to the Montana historical society to be used for the installation or maintenance of roadside  
11 historical signs and historic sites;

12 (b) 2.5% to the university system for the establishment and maintenance of a Montana travel  
13 research program;

14 (c) 6.5% to the department of fish, wildlife, and parks for the maintenance of facilities in state parks  
15 that have both resident and nonresident use;

16 (d) 1.4% to the invasive species state special revenue account established in 80-7-1004;

17 (e) 60.2% to be used directly by the department of commerce as provided in 90-1-122[, and in part  
18 to renovate the Miles City train depot];

19 (f) 0.1% to the emergency lodging for victims of domestic violence or human trafficking account  
20 established in 44-4-1506;

21 (g) (i) except as provided in subsection (2)(g)(ii), 22.5% to be distributed by the department to  
22 regional nonprofit tourism corporations in the ratio of the proceeds collected in each tourism region to the total  
23 proceeds collected statewide; and

24 (ii) if 22.5% of the proceeds collected annually within the limits of a city, consolidated city-county,  
25 resort area, or resort area district exceeds \$35,000, 50% of the amount available for distribution to the regional  
26 nonprofit tourism corporation in the region where the city, consolidated city-county, resort area, or resort area  
27 district is located, to be distributed to the nonprofit convention and visitors bureau in that city, consolidated city-  
28 county, resort area, or resort area district;

- (h) 0.5% to the state special revenue account provided for in 90-1-135 for use by the state-tribal economic development commission established in 90-1-131 for activities in the Indian tourism region;
- (i) 2.6% to the Montana historical interpretation state special revenue account established in 22-3-115; and
- (j) 2.7% or \$1 million, whichever is less, to the Montana heritage preservation and development account provided for in 22-3-1004. The Montana heritage preservation and development commission shall report on the use of funds received pursuant to this subsection (2)(j) to the legislative finance committee on a semiannual basis, in accordance with 5-11-210.
- (k) \$250,000 in each year of the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, to the Montana heritage commission for projects at Reeder's Alley in Helena and Grace Methodist Church in Virginia City.
- (3) If a city, consolidated city-county, resort area, or resort area district qualifies under 15-68-820(5)(b)(iii) or this section for funds but fails to either recognize a nonprofit convention and visitors bureau or submit and gain approval for an annual marketing plan as required in 15-65-122, then those funds must be allocated to the regional nonprofit tourism corporation in the region in which the city, consolidated city-county, resort area, or resort area district is located.
- (4) If a regional nonprofit tourism corporation fails to submit and gain approval for an annual marketing plan as required in 15-65-122, then those funds otherwise allocated to the regional nonprofit tourism corporation may be used by the department of commerce for tourism promotion and promotion of the state as a location for the production of motion pictures and television commercials.
- (5) The tax proceeds received that are transferred to a state special revenue account pursuant to subsections (2)(a) through (2)(c), (2)(e), and (2)(g) are statutorily appropriated to the entities as provided in 17-7-502. The tax proceeds received that are transferred to the emergency lodging for victims of domestic violence or human trafficking account pursuant to subsection (2)(f) are subject to the appropriation provisions in 44-4-1506.
- (6) The tax proceeds received that are transferred to the invasive species state special revenue account pursuant to subsection (2)(d), to the Montana historical interpretation state special revenue account pursuant to subsection (2)(i), and to the Montana heritage preservation and development account pursuant to subsection (2)(j) are subject to appropriation by the legislature. (Terminates June 30, 2027--sec. 12, Ch. 563, L.

2021; sec. 10, Ch. 758, L. 2023; bracketed language in subsection (1)(e) terminates June 30, 2025--sec. 34, Ch. 763, L. 2023.)

**15-65-121. (Effective July 1, 2027) Distribution of tax proceeds.** (1) The proceeds of the tax imposed by 15-65-111 must, in accordance with the provisions of 17-2-124, be deposited in an account in the state special revenue fund to the credit of the department. The department may spend from that account in accordance with an expenditure appropriation by the legislature based on an estimate of the costs of collecting and disbursing the proceeds of the tax. Before allocating the balance of the tax proceeds in accordance with the provisions of 17-2-124 and as provided in subsections (2)(a) through (2)(h) of this section, the department shall determine the expenditures by state agencies for in-state lodging for each reporting period and deduct 4% of that amount from the tax proceeds received each reporting period. The department shall distribute the portion of the 4% that was paid with federal funds to the department of administration for return to the federal government and deposit 30% of the amount deducted less the portion paid with federal funds in the state general fund. The amount of \$400,000 each year must be deposited in the Montana heritage preservation and development account provided for in 22-3-1004.

(2) The balance of the tax proceeds received each reporting period and not deducted pursuant to the expenditure appropriation, deposited in the state general fund, distributed to agencies that paid the tax with federal funds, or deposited in the heritage preservation and development account must be transferred to an account in the state special revenue fund to the credit of the department of commerce for the purposes designated under 90-1-122, to the Montana historical interpretation state special revenue account, to the Montana historical society, to the university system, to the state-tribal economic development commission, and to the department of fish, wildlife, and parks, as follows:

(a) 1% to the Montana historical society to be used for the installation or maintenance of roadside historical signs and historic sites;

(b) 2.5% to the university system for the establishment and maintenance of a Montana travel research program;

(c) 6.5% to the department of fish, wildlife, and parks for the maintenance of facilities in state parks that have both resident and nonresident use;

(d) 1.4% to the invasive species state special revenue account established in 80-7-1004;

(e) 63% to be used directly by the department of commerce as provided in 90-1-122;

(f) (i) except as provided in subsection (2)(f)(ii), 22.5% to be distributed by the department to regional nonprofit tourism corporations in the ratio of the proceeds collected in each tourism region to the total proceeds collected statewide; and

(ii) if 22.5% of the proceeds collected annually within the limits of a city, consolidated city-county, resort area, or resort area district exceeds \$35,000, 50% of the amount available for distribution to the regional nonprofit tourism corporation in the region where the city, consolidated city-county, resort area, or resort area district is located, to be distributed to the nonprofit convention and visitors bureau in that city, consolidated city-county, resort area, or resort area district;

(g) 0.5% to the state special revenue account provided for in 90-1-135 for use by the state-tribal economic development commission established in 90-1-131 for activities in the Indian tourism region; and

(h) 2.6% to the Montana historical interpretation state special revenue account established in 22-3-115.

(3) If a city, consolidated city-county, resort area, or resort area district qualifies under 15-68-820(5)(b)(iii) or this section for funds but fails to either recognize a nonprofit convention and visitors bureau or submit and gain approval for an annual marketing plan as required in 15-65-122, then those funds must be allocated to the regional nonprofit tourism corporation in the region in which the city, consolidated city-county, resort area, or resort area district is located.

(4) If a regional nonprofit tourism corporation fails to submit and gain approval for an annual marketing plan as required in 15-65-122, then those funds otherwise allocated to the regional nonprofit tourism corporation may be used by the department of commerce for tourism promotion and promotion of the state as a location for the production of motion pictures and television commercials.

(5) The tax proceeds received that are transferred to a state special revenue account pursuant to subsections (2)(a) through (2)(c), (2)(e), and (2)(f) are statutorily appropriated to the entities as provided in 17-7-502.

(6) The tax proceeds received that are transferred to the invasive species state special revenue account pursuant to subsection (2)(d) and to the Montana historical interpretation state special revenue account pursuant to subsection (2)(h) are subject to appropriation by the legislature."

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

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