

HOUSE BILL 349

Introduced by Gervais, et al.

1/22	Introduced
1/22	Referred to Appropriations
1/23	First Reading
3/05	Hearing
3/23	Tabled in Committee

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 349
2 INTRODUCED BY Gemma Russell Yellowtail
3

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT APPROPRIATING MONEY TO
5 THE BOARD OF REGENTS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO
6 NONBENEFICIARY STUDENTS ATTENDING TRIBALLY CONTROLLED
7 COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN MONTANA; PROVIDING A CONTINGENCY FOR
8 RECEIPT OF MONEY; PROVIDING FOR A REVERSION OF UNSPENT FUNDS
9 TO THE GENERAL FUND; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE
10 DATE."

11
12 WHEREAS, seven tribally controlled community colleges
13 exist in the State of Montana; and

14 WHEREAS, the tribal community colleges provide a
15 quality, low-cost, and accessible college program to Indian
16 and non-Indian students each year; and

17 WHEREAS, approximately 300 of these students are
18 nonbeneficiary students who do not qualify for financial
19 support through the Bureau of Indian Affairs or under the
20 Tribally Controlled Community College Act; and

21 WHEREAS, the tribal community colleges currently
22 subsidize the costs of providing services to nonbeneficiary
23 students, allowing them to continue their educations at a
24 lower cost to the state; and

25 WHEREAS, without support, tribal community colleges will

1 not be able to serve nonbeneficiary students without
2 increasing student fees, which may result in students
3 dropping out of college.

4
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

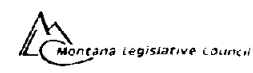
6 NEW SECTION. Section 1. Appropriation. (1) There is
7 appropriated from the general fund to the board of regents
8 \$500,000 for the biennium ending June 30, 1993, to provide
9 financial assistance to nonbeneficiary students enrolled in
10 tribally controlled community colleges in Montana.

11 (2) An expenditure from this appropriation is
12 contingent upon the tribal community college:

13 (a) being accredited or being a candidate for
14 accreditation by the Northwest association of schools and
15 colleges; and

16 (b) entering into a contract or a state-tribal
17 cooperative agreement, pursuant to Title 18, chapter 11,
18 with the board of regents to provide the board with
19 information relating to eligibility of nonbeneficiary
20 students and documentation on the curriculum to ensure that
21 the content and quality of courses offered by the tribal
22 community college are consistent with the standards adopted
23 by the Montana university system.

24 (3) It is the intent of the legislature that the
25 appropriation request in subsection (1) be considered an



LC 0092/01

1 amount in addition to the Montana university system budget
2 appropriation request for the biennium ending June 30, 1993.

3 (4) All funds appropriated under subsection (1) that
4 are unspent revert to the general fund.

5 NEW SECTION. **Section 2.** Effective date. [This act] is
6 effective on passage and approval.

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