

HOUSE BILL 967

Introduced by Bradley, et al.

2/21	Introduced
2/21	Referred to Appropriations
2/22	First Reading
3/05	Hearing
3/23	Tabled in Committee

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 967
2 INTRODUCED BY Bradley Thomas Blaylock Dick Brown
3

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO
5 IMPLEMENT THE FUNDING LEVELS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
6 RECOMMENDED BY THE MONTANA EDUCATION COMMISSION FOR THE
7 NINETIES AND BEYOND."
8

9 WHEREAS, in September 1989, Governor Stan Stephens
10 established the Montana Education Commission for the
11 Nineties and Beyond, instructing the 14 members of the
12 Commission to visualize the future needs of the people of
13 the state with respect to all aspects of higher education
14 and with concern for quality, access, accountability, and
15 affordability; and

16 WHEREAS, in October 1990, the Montana Education
17 Commission for the Nineties and Beyond issued its report,
18 "Crossroads, Montana Higher Education in the Nineties"; and

19 WHEREAS, the Commission recommended, among other things,
20 that the Legislature adopt as state policy the funding of
21 Montana higher education institutions at no less than the
22 average of peer institutions; and

23 WHEREAS, the Commission further recommended that if
24 budget restrictions reduce the level of funding below the
25 average of peer institutions, the Board of Regents of Higher

1 Education should downsize higher education institutions to
2 the point necessary to ensure maintenance of the peer
3 average as a minimum support level; and

4 WHEREAS, the Commission advised that Montana has no more
5 than 5 years to catch up to peer institutions and,
6 therefore, recommended that the state proceed with a 5-year
7 program, requiring \$7 million each year in addition to
8 existing budget expectations, to restore adequate funding
9 for higher education and to increase the level of funding of
10 those institutions to the average of peer institutions.
11

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

13 NEW SECTION. Section 1. Appropriation. There is
14 appropriated from the general fund to the board of regents
15 of higher education \$14 million for the biennium ending June
16 30, 1993, beyond any budgeted appropriation for the state's
17 institutions of higher education for the purpose of
18 increasing the level of funding of those institutions to the
19 average of peer institutions.

-End-



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INTRODUCED BILL
HB 967