

1 *House* BILL NO. *201*  
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Hag-- Holmes TEGUS, Tedrick*  
 3 *Hummel Williams*

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND  
 5 ESTABLISHING A VETERANS' NURSING AND RETIREMENT HOME."  
 6

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

8 Section 1. Veterans' nursing and retirement home  
 9 created -- persons admitted. There is authorized the  
 10 establishment and construction of a nursing and retirement  
 11 home for veterans of the armed services of the United  
 12 States. The institution shall be located at or near the  
 13 city of Billings, Montana, and shall be known as the  
 14 "Montana Veterans' Nursing and Retirement Home". The  
 15 institution's primary function shall be to provide home and  
 16 subsistence for honorably discharged veterans. The  
 17 department of institutions also may admit spouses of  
 18 honorably discharged veterans to the home if space permits.

19 Section 2. Capacity -- qualification for federal  
 20 funds. The Montana veterans' nursing and retirement home  
 21 shall have a capacity of not more than one hundred (100)  
 22 beds, and shall be designed and constructed so as to qualify  
 23 for federal funding under the provisions of federal public  
 24 law 88-450, as from time to time amended. The home shall be  
 25 operated so as to qualify for funds from the United States

1 veterans administration under the provisions of Title 38,  
 2 U.S. Code, 641.

3 Section 3. Superintendent. The superintendent of the  
 4 Montana veterans' nursing and retirement home shall be an  
 5 honorably discharged veteran of the armed forces of the  
 6 United States. He shall be under the control of the  
 7 director of the department of institutions.

8 Section 4. Acceptance of building site. The department  
 9 of institutions is authorized to accept any gifts inter  
 10 vivos of property that may be donated to the state by the  
 11 city of Billings or by Yellowstone county for the purpose of  
 12 the nursing and retirement home.

13 Section 5. Assessment of veterans. To the extent  
 14 permitted by federal law, the department of institutions is  
 15 authorized to establish a schedule of assessment for the  
 16 purpose of collecting from any patient of the home the  
 17 amount of difference between the average daily operating  
 18 cost of the home and the amount received from the United  
 19 States veterans administration as reimbursement for nursing  
 20 home care of any patient.

21 Section 6. Eligibility for residence in home. To be  
 22 eligible for residence in the Montana veterans' home under  
 23 the regulations prescribed by the state department of  
 24 institutions a person shall:

25 (1) be an honorably discharged veteran, or the spouse

1 of a veteran, who served in the armed forces of the United  
2 States.

3 (2) be an invalid and have become unable to earn a  
4 livelihood as a result of the disability.

5 (3) have resided in Montana for a period of two years  
6 immediately prior to making application for admittance.

7 (4) not have been convicted of a felony or of a crime  
8 involving moral turpitude.

9 (5) not be an alcoholic or have a record of habitual  
10 inebriation.

11 (6) if a woman, be fifty (50) years of age or older.

12 Section 7. Acceptance and deposit of federal moneys.  
13 The state department of institutions may accept moneys from  
14 the federal government that become available to the state as  
15 a result of operating the Montana veterans' home and shall  
16 deposit such moneys in the state treasury for the benefit of  
17 the home. If the resident of the home is transferred to  
18 another institution, the department of institutions shall  
19 continue to draw from the federal government any moneys  
20 available for the maintenance of such former resident.

21 Section 8. Legislative intent. The legislature of the  
22 state of Montana hereby expresses its intent to appropriate  
23 the necessary funds from time to time to plan and construct  
24 the Montana veterans' nursing and retirement home in  
25 accordance with Title 38, U.S. Code 641.

-End-

## STATE OF MONTANA

REQUEST NO. 244-75

## FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received February 21, 1975, 19       , there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for House Bill 201 pursuant to Chapter 53, Laws of Montana, 1965 - Thirty-Ninth Legislative Assembly.

Background information used in developing this Fiscal Note is available from the Office of Budget and Program Planning, to members of the Legislature upon request.

## DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

House Bill 201 authorizes and establishes a veterans' nursing and retirement home near Billings, Montana.

## ASSUMPTIONS:

1. The estimated construction cost of a 100 bed nursing home is \$200,000. The veterans administration will provide 60% of the funding for construction. Occupancy date will be July 1, 1976.
2. The average per patient daily operating expenses are estimated to be \$14, based on a 90% occupancy rate. The veterans administration will fund \$6 and the patient \$3.50 of the \$14 per day.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

	FY 76	FY 77
I. Estimated effect on expenditures by category		
Operating expenses		\$ 459,900
Capital Outlay	\$ 2,000,000	
Total estimated increase in expenditures	<u>\$ 2,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 459,900</u>
II. Estimated effect on revenue by source:		
VA participation - construction	\$ 1,200,000	
VA participation - operations		\$ 197,100
Veteran patient assessment		114,975
Total estimated increase in revenue	<u>\$ 1,200,000</u>	<u>\$ 312,075</u>
III. Net increase in general fund expenditures (I - II)	<u>\$ 800,000</u>	<u>\$ 147,825</u>

## CONCLUSIONS:

Enactment of House Bill 201 will increase general fund expenditures by an estimated \$947,825 during the 1975-77 biennium.

*Michael Stallings*

BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

Date: 2/22/75