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1	Jaune BILL NO 413	А
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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO CREATE A STATE

5 RESERVE FUND THAT WILL PROVIDE INTEREST FREE FUNDS TO SCHOOL

6 DISTRICTS FOR CAPITAL OUTLAY; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 75-7104,

75-7107, AND SECTIONS 75-7110 THROUGH 75-7115, R.C.M. 1947."

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

Section 1. Purpose and definition of capital outlay reserve fund. (1) A state reserve fund for capital outlay, hereafter referred to as the "reserve", is created for the purpose of providing the elementary and high school districts of the state with interest free funds for capital outlay. Funds from the reserve shall be used to:

- (a) sell general obligation bonus for the capital outlay needs of the school districts,
- (b) pay for the interest incurred by the sale of such bonds,
- 20 (c) assume responsibility for the retirement of all
  21 interest due on outstanding bonded indebtedness incurred by
  22 all school districts prior to fiscal year 1975-76.
- 23 (2) All other funds remaining in the reserve shall be 24 invested.
- 25 Section 2. Creation of funds. The director of the

department of revenue shall annually set a levy, not to exceed three (3) mills, on all of the property of the state

3 to produce a maximum of seven million dollars (\$7,000,000),

4 except that for each of the fiscal years 1975-1980, a levy

5 not to exceed five (5) mills shall be set to produce a

6 maximum of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000). The proceeds

7 of this levy shall be deposited to the reserve fund.

8 Section 3. Financial obligations of the reserve.

9 (1) The state shall assume immediate responsibility for the

10 retirement of all interest due on outstanding bonded

indebtedness incurred by the elementary and high school districts prior to fiscal year 1975-76. However, a school

\_\_ \_\_\_\_, a\_\_\_\_, a\_\_\_

district may continue to finance capital outlay by issuing

their own bonds but the state shall not be obligated to retire any interest due on such bonded indebtedness.

16 (2) A maximum of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) in

17 general obligation bonds may be sold each year to provide

18 for the capital outlay needs of the elementary and high

19 school districts. Interest incurred by the sale of such

bonds shall be paid by the reserve fund.

21 (3) If reserve funds are available, a minimum of eight

22 million dollars (\$8,000,000) shall be made available to the

23 school districts with approved applications for capital

24 outlay funds.

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(4) All remaining funds shall be invested by the

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state, in accordance with state investment policy, and all interest accrued for such investment shall become a part of the reserve.

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Section 4. Limitations of the reserve fund. (1) The maximum amount of funds in the reserve shall not exceed twenty-five million collars (\$25,000,000). Reserve funds in excess of such amount shall be deposited to the earmarked revenue fund, state equalization aid account, for the support of the school foundation program.

(2) Total bonded indebtedness of the reserve shall not exceed fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000).

Section 5. Limitations for receipt of funds by the school districts. (1) A school district may not receive any funds from the reserve for any purpose other than capital outlay.

- (2) A school district may not receive any funds in excess of the limitations on bonded indebtedness as defined in section 75-7104.
- (3) A school district may not be eligible to receive funds from the reserve unless the receipt and repayment of such funds has been authorized by the qualified electors of the district at an election called for the purpose of considering a proposition to receive and repay such funds in accordance with this act.
- 25 (4) A school district may not receive any funds from

the reserve unless an application for funds has been approved by the office of the superintendent of public

3 instruction.

Section 6. Rules and criteria to be provided by the office of the superintendent of public instruction. The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall 6 7 provide written rules that establish procedures to be Ø followed and the criteria to be met by the school districts 9 for the receipt of funds from the reserve. In the event 10 that the applications for funds exceed the amount of reserve 11 funds available in any fiscal year, the office of the 12 superintendent of public instruction may determine who shall 13 receive the available funds.

Section 7. Repayment of reserve funds by the school 14 districts. (1) A school district shall repay, to the 15 16 reserve, all of the funds received for the purpose of 17 capital outlay within thirty (30) years by levying no more 18 than ten (10) mills per year on all of the taxable property 19 of the school district, or the school district may repay the 20 reserve within ten (10) years by levying no more than five 21 (5) mills per year.

22 (2) If repayment by a combined elementary and high 23 school district is to be made then a maximum of twelve (12) 24 mills may be levied each year for a period not to exceed 25 thirty (30) years. (3) If a school district is unable to repay all of the funds owed to the reserve within thirty (30) years the reserve fund will retire the remaining debt owed. The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall establish criteria for determining whether a school district will be financially able to retire the full amount of debt within thirty (30) years; such determination must be made prior to approval of the school districts application for funds.

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10 Section 8. Section 75-7104, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to read as follows:

"75-7104. Limitations on amount of bond issue. (1) The maximum amount for which each school district shall become indebted by the issuance of bonds, including bonds issued for the state reserve fund, and including all indebtedness represented by outstanding bonds of previous issues and registered warrants, is five percent (5%) of the assessed value of the taxable property therein as ascertained by the last completed assessment for state, county, and school taxes previous to the incurring of such indebtedness. All bonds issued in excess of such amount shall be null and void, except as provided in subsection (2).

When the total indebtedness of a school district has reached the five percent (5%) limitation prescribed in this section, such school district shall have the power and

- authority to pay all reasonable and necessary expenses of the school district on a cash basis in accordance with the
- Whenever bonds are issued for the purpose of refunding bonds, any moneys to the credit of the debt service fund for the payment of the bonds to be refunded shall be applied

financial administration provisions of this title.

- towards the payment of such bonds and the refunding bond issue shall be decreased accordingly.
- (2) In the case of a school district within which a new 10 major industrial facility which seeks to qualify for 11 taxation as class seven (7) property under section 84-301, 12 R.C.M. 1947, is being constructed or is about to be 13 constructed. the school district may require, as a 14 precondition of the new major industrial facility qualifying 15 as class seven (7) property, that the owners of the proposed 16 industrial facility enter into an agreement with the school district concerning the issuing of bonds in excess of the 17 18 five percent (5%) limitation prescribed in subsection one
- 20 the approval of the voters, issue bonds which exceed the

(1). Under such an agreement, the school district may, with

21 limitation prescribed in subsection one (1) by a maximum of

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- 22 five percent (5%) of the estimated assessed value of the
- 23 taxable property of the new major industrial facility when
- 24 completed. The estimated assessed value of the taxable
- 25 property of the new major industrial facility shall be

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1 computed by the department of revenue when requested to do 2 so by a resolution of the board of trustees of the school 3 district, and copy of the department's statement of estimated assessed value shall be printed on each ballot 4 used to vote on a bond issue proposed under this subsection. 5 6 Pursuant to the agreement between the new 7 industrial facility and the school district, and as a 8 precondition to qualifying as class seven (7) property, the new major industrial facility and its owners shall, in 9 10 addition to such taxes as may be imposed by the school 11 district on property owners generally pay so much of the 12 principal and interests on the bonds provided for under this 13 subsection as shall represent payment on an indebtedness in 14 excess of the limitation prescribed in subsection one (1). 15 After the completion of the new major industrial facility 16 and when the indebtedness of the school district no longer 17 exceeds the limitation prescribed in subsection one (1), the 18 new major industrial facility shall be entitled, after all 19 the current indebtedness of the school district has been 20 paid, to a tax credit over a period of no more than twenty 21 (20) years which credit shall, as a total amount, be equal 22 to the amount by which the facility paid the principal and 23 interest of the school district's bonds in excess of its general liability as a taxpayer within the district. 24

A major industrial facility is a facility, subject to

 $1 \,\,$   $\,\,$  the taxing power of the school district, whose  $\,$  construction

2 or operation will increase the population of the district so

as to impose a significant burden upon the resources of the

4 district and to require construction of new school

5 facilities. A significant burden is an increase in ANB of at

6 least twenty percent (20%) in a single year."

7 Section 9. Section 75-7107, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to

a read as follows:

9 "75-7107. Limitation of term and interest on bonds,

10 and timing for redemption of bonds. School--district--bonds

11 Bonds issued by school districts shall not be issued for a

12 term longer than twenty (20) years except that bonds issued

13 to refund or redeem outstanding bonds shall not be issued

14 for a term longer than ten (10) years unless the unexpired

15 term of the bonds to be refunded or redeemed is in excess of

16 ten (10) years in which case the refunding or redeeming

17 bonds may be issued for such unexpired term. All bonds

18 issued for a longer term than five (5) years shall be

19 redeemable at the option of the school district on any

20 interest payment date after one-half (1/2) of the term for

21 which they were issued has expired and it shall be so stated

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on the face of the bonds. The interest shall not exceed

23 seven per cent (7%) per annum and shall be payable

24 semiannually."

25 Section 10. Section 75-7110, R.C.M. 1947, is amended

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"75-7110. Election required to authorize the issuance of school district bonds and the methods of introduction. A school district or the state shall not issue bonds for any purpose other than that provided in section 75-7109 unless the issuance of bonds or the receipt and repayment of state reserve funds has been authorized by the qualified electors of the school district at an election called for the purpose of considering a proposition to issue such bonds or to receive and repay such funds. A school district bond election or receipt and repayment election shall be called by a resolution as prescribed under the provisions of section 75-6406 when:

- 14 (1) the trustees, of their own volition, adopt a 15 resolution to that effect; or
- 16 (2) the trustees have received a petition which asks
  17 that an election be held to consider a bond or receipt and
  18 repayment proposition and which has been validated under the
  19 provisions of section 75-7114."
- 20 Section 11. Section 75-7111, R.C.M. 1947, is amended 21 to read as follows:
- 22 "75-7111. Additional requirements for trustees 23 resolution calling bond or receipt and repayment election. 24 In addition to the requirements for calling an election that 25 are prescribed in sections 75-6406 and 75-6408, the

- trustees' resolution calling a school district bond election shall:
- 3 (1) fix the exact amount of the bonds proposed to be
  4 issued or the amount of funds to be received and repayed,
  5 which may be more or less than the amounts estimated in a
  6 petition;
- 7 (2) fix the maximum number of years in which the 8 proposed bonds, or reserve funds would be paid; and
- 9 (3) in the case of initiation by a petition, state the essential facts about the petition and its presentation."
- 11 Section 12. Section 75-7112, R.C.M. 1947, is amended 12 to read as follows:
- 13 "75-7112. Form, contents and circularization of
  14 petition proposing school district bond or receipt and
  15 repayment election. Any petition for the calling of an
  16 election on the proposition of issuing school district bonds
  17 or on the receipt and repayment of state reserve funds
- 18 shall:
- 19 (1) plainly state each purpose of the proposed bond
  20 issue or receipt of reserve funds and the estimated amount
  21 of the bonds or reserve funds that would be issued or
  22 received for each purpose;
- 23 (2) be signed by not less than twenty per cent (20%) of 24 the school district electors qualified to vote under the
- 25 provisions of section 75-6410 in order to constitute a valid

1 petition:

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- (3) be a single petition or it may be composed of more than one petition, all being identical in form, and after being circulated and signed they shall be fastened together to form a single petition when submitted to the county registrar;
- 7 (4) be circulated by any one or more qualified electors of the school district; and
  - (5) contain an affidavit of each registered elector circulating a petition attached to the portion of the petition he circulated. Such affidavit shall attest to the authenticity of the signatures and that the signers knew the contents of the petition at the time of signing it."
- 14 Section 13. Section 75-7113, R.C.M. 1947, is amended 15 to read as follows:
  - "75-7113. Validation of petition county registrar's certificate. The petitioners for a school district bond or receipt and repayment of reserve fund election shall submit their petition to the county registrar of the county where the school district is located for validation of the signatures on the petition. The county registrar shall examine the petition and shall attach or endorse thereon a certificate which shall state:
- 24 (1) the total number of electors of the school district 25 who are, at the time, qualified to vote under the provisions

of section 75-6410:

- (2) which and how many of the persons whose names are 2 subscribed to the petition possess the qualifications to 3 vote on a bond or receipt and repayment proposition; and
- (3) whether the number of qualified signers established 5 in subsection (2) is more or less than twenty per cent (20%) of the total number of qualified electors established in 7 subsection (1).
- After completing the examination, the county registrar 9 10 shall immediately send the petition and his certificate to the school district. The county registrar shall not receive 11 compensation for the examination of school district bond or 12 13 receipt and repayment petitions."
- Section 14. Section 75-7114, R.C.M. 1947, is amended 14 to read as follows: 15

consideration

of

validated

"75-7114. Trustees'

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- petition proposing receipt and repayment or bond election. 17 when a school district receives a school district bond 18 petition from the county registrar, a meeting of the 19 20 trustees shall be called for the consideration of the petition. The trustees shall be the judges of the adequacy 21 of the petition and their findings shall be conclusive
- 23 against the school district in favor of the innocent holder
- of bonds issued pursuant to the election called and held by
- reason of the presentation of such petition. The petition

2	form and bears the signatures of not less than twenty per
3	cent (20%) of the school district electors who are qualified
4	to vote under the provisions of section 75-6410."
5	Section 15. Section 75-7115, R.C.M. 1947, is amended
6	to read as follows:
7	"75-7115. Preparation and form of ballots for bond or
8	receipt and repayment election. The school district shall
9	cause ballots to be prepared for all bond or receipt and
10	repayment elections, and whenever bonds or reserve funds for
11	more than one purpose are to be voted upon at the same
12	election, separate ballots shall be prepared for each
13	purpose. All such ballots shall be substantially in the
14	following form:
15	OFFICIAL BALLOT
16	SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND ELECTION
17	INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: Make an X or similar mark in
18	the vacant square before the words "BONDSYES" if you wish
19	to vote for the bond issue; if you are opposed to the bond
20	issue make an X or similar mark in the square before the
21	words "BONDSNO."
22	Shall the board of trustees be authorized to issue and
23	sell bonds of this school district in the amount of
24	dollars (\$) bearing interest at a rate not more than
25	seven per cent (7%) per annum, payable semiannually, during

shall be valid if the trustees find that it is in proper

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a period not more than .... years, for the purpose ....
      (here state the purpose the same way as in the notice of
     election).
               BONDS -- YES.
               BONDS -- NO.
 5
                           OFFICIAL BALLOT
               SCHOOL DISTRICT RECEIPT AND REPAYMENT OF
 7
                     STATE RESERVE FUNDS ELECTION
          INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: Make an X or similar mark in
     the vacant square before the words "RESERVE FUNDS -- YES" if
10
     you wish to vote for the receipt and repayment of reserve
11
     funds for capital outlay; if you are opposed to the receipt
12
     and repayment of reserve funds make an X or similar mark in
      the square before the words "RESERVE FUNDS -- NO".
13
14
           Shall the board of trustees be authorized to receive
15
     and repay funds from the state reserve fund for capital
16
     outlay in the amount of .... dollars ($....), payable
17
     during a period not more than .... years, at the rate of
18
      .... mills per year, for the purpose .... (here state the
     purpose the same way as in the notice of election).
19
           / RESERVE FUNDS -- YES.
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           / RESERVE FUNDS -- NO."
21
          Section 16. Section 75-7116, R.C.M. 1947, is amended
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-14- HB4/3

to read as follows:

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2 "75-7116. Notice of bond or receipt and repayment election by separate purpose. Any school district bond or receipt and repayment election shall be conducted in accordance with the school election provisions of this Title except that the election notice required therein shall be in substantially the following form:

#### NOTICE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND ELECTION

Notice is hereby given by the trustees of School 9 District No. ... of .... County, state of Montana, that 10 11 pursuant to a certain resolution duly adopted at a meeting 12 of the board of trustees of said school district held on the 13 .... day of ...., A.D., 19.., an election of the registered 14 electors of School District No. .... of .... County, state 15 of Montana, will be held on the .... day of ...., A.D., 16 19... at .... for the purpose of voting upon the guestion of whether or not the trustees shall be authorized to issue and 17 18 sell bonds of said school district in the amount of .... dollars (\$....), bearing interest at a rate not more than seven per cent (7%) per annum, payable semiannually, for the 21 purpose of .... (here state purpose). The bonds to be issued will be either amortization or serial bonds. and amortization bonds will be the first choice of the board of trustees. The bonds to be issued, whether amortization or serial bonds, will be payable in installments over a period

not exceeding .... (state number) years. The polls will be open from .... o'clock ....m. and until .... o'clock ....m. of the said day. Dated and posted this .... day of ...., A.D., 19... Chairman of School District No. .... of .... County, State of Montana If the bonds proposed to be issued are for more than 10 one purpose, then each purpose shall be separately stated in the notice together with the proposed amount of bonds 11 12 therefor. 13 NOTICE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT RECEIPT AND 14 REPAYMENT OF STATE RESERVE FUNDS ELECTION 15 16 Notice is hereby given by the trustees of School 17 District No. ... of .... County, state of Montana, that pursuant to a certain resolution duly adopted at a meeting 18 19 of the board of trustees of said school district held on the .... day of ...., A.D., 19...., an election of the 20 21 registered electors of School District No. ... of .... 22 County, state of Montana, will be held on the .... day of 23 ..., A.D., 19..., at ... for the purpose of voting upon the question of whether or not the trustees shall be 24 authorized to receive and repay funds from the state reserve 25

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rejected; or

1	fund for capital outlay for said school district in the
2	amount of dollars (\$), payable within (state
3	number) years at the rate of mills per year for the
4	purpose of (here state purpose).
5	The polls will be open from o'clockm. and
6	until o'clockm. of the said day.
7	Dated and posted this, day of, A.D., 19
8	••••
9	Chairman of School District No.
10	of County,
11	State of Montana
12	If the receipt of reserve funds are for more than one
13	purpose, then each purpose shall be separately stated in the
14	notice together with the proposed amount of funds therefor."
15	Section 17. Section 75-7117, R.C.M. 1947, is amended
16	to read as follows:
17	"75-7117. Determination of approval or rejection of
18	proposition at bond or receipt and repayment election. When
19	the trustees canvass the vote of a school district bond or
20	receipt and repayment election under the provisions of
21	section 75-6423, they shall determine the approval or
22	rejection of the school election bend-proposition in the
23	following manner:
24	(1) determine the total number of electors of the
25	school district who are qualified to vote under the

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provisions of section 75-6410 from the list of electors
     supplied by the county registrar for such school--bond
      election:
          (2) determine the total number of qualified electors
     who voted at the school bend election from the tally sheet
      or sheets for such election;
           (3) calculate the percentage of qualified electors
      voting at the school bond election by dividing the amount
      determined in subsection (2) by the amount determined in
      subsection (1); and
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           (4) when the calculated percentage in subsection (3) is
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      forty per cent (40%) or more, the school election bond
     proposition shall be deemed to have been approved and
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      adopted if a majority of the votes shall have been cast in
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      favor of such proposition, otherwise it shall be deemed to
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     have been rejected; or
17
           (5) when the calculated percentage in subsection (3) is
18
     more than thirty per cent (30%) but less than forty per cent
19
      (40%), the school election bond-proposition shall be deemed
20
      to have been approved and adopted if sixty per cent (60%) or
21
      more of the votes shall have been cast in favor of such
22
      proposition, otherwise it shall be deemed to have been
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(6) when the calculated percentage in subsection (3) is

thirty per cent (30%) or less, the school election send

l proposition shall be deemed to have been rejected.

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If the canvass of the vote establishes the approval and adoption of the school bond or receipt and repayment proposition, the trustees shall issue a certificate proclaiming the passage of such proposition and the authorization to issue bonds of the school district or to receive reserve funds for the purposes specified on the ballot for such school district bend election."

-End-

# STATE OF MONTANA

REQUEST	NO.	<u> 152-75</u>
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## FISCAL NOTE

·		Form BD-15
In compliance with a written request received <u>February 3</u> for <u>House Bill 413</u> pursuant to Chapter 53  Background information used in developing this Fiscal Note is available of the Legislature upon request.	, Laws of Montana, 1965 -	Thirty-Ninth Legislative Assembly.
DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:		
An act to create a state reserve fund that will provide interest free fu upported by a statewide mill levy not to exceed five mills for FY 7 mends sections relating to elections to authorize the issuance of sch	5-80 and not to exceed thr	
ASSUMPTIONS: ,		
. The effective date of this bill will be July 1, 1975.		
the rease by \$0.20 million each subsequent year.	July 1, 1975 will be \$3.60	million in fishal year 1976 and will
% 5-mill state-wide levy will raise \$6.30 million in FY 76 and \$1,260 billion in FY 76 and \$1.335 billion in FY 77). Assume maximal $%$		
Approval will be given to school district capital outlay projects	totaling \$9.00 million each	year.
i. Administration costs will be 2/3% of the amount of approved ca	apital outlay projects or \$6	0,000 each year.
Ten year state general obligation bonds can be sold bearing an invear until the reserve fund balance has exceeded \$20 million.	nterest rate of 7% and \$9 n	nillion of such bonds will be sold each
7. Reserve balance will earn interest at 8% per year.		
3. School districts will repay loans from the reserve over 15 years	<b>5.</b>	
3. All school districts will be able to repay loans from the reserve	in full.	
10. Administration costs will be paid from the reserve fund.		
FISCAL IMPACT:	FY 76	FY 77
Revenue:		•
Revenue to reserve fund from five mill statewide levy  Net sales revenue from general obligation bonds	\$ 6.30 million 9.00 million	\$ 6.68 million 8.10 million
Interest on reserve fund balance	5.00 Immon	.16 million
Loans repaid by school districts	,	.60 million
Total estimated revenue under proposed law	\$15.30 million	\$15.54 million
		CONTINUED
		BUDGET DIRECTOR
	•	Office of Budget and Program Planning
		Date:

#### STATE OF MONTANA

#### FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST NO. 152-75

Form BD-15

for House Bill 413 pursuant to Cl Background information used in developing this Fiscal No of the Legislature upon request.	napter 53, Laws of Montana, 1965	Thirty-Ninth Legislative Assembly.
FISCAL IMPACT — continued	FY 76	FY 77
Expenditure:		
Personal Services	\$ .06 million	\$ .06 million
Operating Expenses	.63 million	1.20 million
Local Assistance	12.60 million	12.40 million
Total estimated expenditures under current law	13.29 million	13.66 million
Net Effect	\$ 2.01 million	\$ 1.88 million

#### CONCLUSION:

Enactment of House Bill 413 would result in a net increase in revenues to the reserve fund of approximately \$3.89 million during the biennium. Statewide property taxes would increase by 5 mills each year.

#### LOCAL IMPACT:

School district property tax requirements will decrease by the amount of the total interest on outstanding bonds; this amount is estimated at \$3.6 million.

#### LONG-RANGE IMPACT:

The reserve fund established under House Bill 413, when projected to 1998, indicates that the state would pay out less for capital expenditures and interest than would be paid out by school districts under the current capital funding structure. After FY 74, expenditures from the fund would level off at approximately \$12.525 million per year while revenues would continue to increase. The statewide levy could eventually be eliminated, whereupon the reserve fund would become a revolving type fund.

### **TECHNICAL NOTE:**

No agency is designated to administer the reserve fund and specific provision has not been made for administration costs.

BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

Date: February 8, 1975