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2 INTRODUCED BY Senate BILL NO. ///

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REDUCING THE RATE OF THE CORPORATION LICENSE TAX TO SIX AND ONE-EIGHTH PERCENT (6 1/8%); AMENDING SECTION 84-1501, R.C.M. 1947."

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

Section 1. Section 84-1501, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to

10 read as follows:

"84-1501. Corporation license tax--organizations exempt therefrom -- alternative tax based on gross sales. The corporation includes associations, joint-stock companies, common-law trusts and business trusts which do business in an organized capacity. and all other corporations whether created, organized or existing under and pursuant to the laws, agreements, or declarations of trust of any state, country, or the United States. Every corporation, except as hereinafter provided and except as provided in section 40-2821 (5), R.C.M. 1947, engaged in business in the state of Montana shall annually pay to the state treasurer as a license fee for the privilege of carrying on business in this state such percentage or percentages of its total net income for the preceding year at the rate hereinafter set forth. In the case of corporations having income from business activity which is taxable both within and without this state, the license fee shall be measured by the net income derived from or attributable to Montana sources as determined under section 84-1503.

The percentage of net income to be paid under this section shall be six and three-quarters-per-cent-(6-3/4%) one-eighth percent (6 1/8%) of all net income for the taxable period. The rate set forth in this act shall be effective for all taxable years ending on or after February 23, 1971. This rate is retroactive to and effective for all taxable years ending on or after February 28, 1971. Every corporation subject to taxation under this act shall, in any event, pay a minimum tax of not less than fifty dollars (\$50).

Pursuant to the provisions of article III, section 2, of the Multistate Tax Compact (Title 84, chapter 67, R.C.M. 1947) every corporation deriving income from sources both within and without the state of Montana and required to file a return and whose only activity in Montana consists of making sales and which does not own or rent real estate or tangible personal property within Montana and whose annual gross volume of sales made in Montana during the taxable year does not exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), may elect to pay a tax of one-half of one

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- 1 percent (0.5%) of gross sales made in Montana during the
  - taxable year. Such tax shall be in lieu of the tax otherwise
- 3 imposed under this section. The gross volume of sales made
- 4 in Montana during the taxable year shall be determined
- according to the provisions of article IV, sections 16 and
- 6 17, of the Multistate Tax Compact.
- 7 There shall not be taxed under this Title any income
- 8 received by any--
- 9 (a). Labor, agricultural or horticultural
- 10 organization;

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- 11 (b). Fraternal beneficiary, society, order or
- 12 association operating under the lodge system or for the
- 13 exclusive ben fit of the members of a fraternity itself
- 14 operating under the lodge system, and providing for the
- 15 payment of life, sick, accident or other benefits to the
- 16 members of such society, order or association or their
- 17 dependents;
- 18 (c). Cemetery company owned and operated exclusively
- 19 for the benefit of its members:
- 20 (d). Corporation or association organized and operated
- 21 exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific or
- 22 educational purposes, no part of the net income of which
- 23 inures to the benefit of any private stockholder or
- 24 individual:
- 25 (e). Business league, chamber of commerce, or board of

- 1 trade, not organized for profit, and no part of the net
- 2 income of which inures to the benefit of any private
- 3 stockholder or individual;
- 4 (f). Civic league or organization not organized for
- 5 profit, but operated exclusively for the promotion of social
  - welfare;
- 7 (g). Club organized and operated exclusively for
- 8 pleasure, recreation and other nonprofitable purposes, no
- 9 part of the net income of which inures to the benefit of any
- 10 private stockholder or members:
- 11 (h). Farmers' or other mutual hail, cyclone or fire
- 12 insurance company, mutual ditch or irrigation company,
- 13 mutual or co-operative telephone company, or like
- 14 organization of a purely local character, the income of
- 15 which consists solely of assessments, dues and fees
- 16 collected from members for the sole purpose of meeting its
- 17 expenses;
- 18 (i). Any co-operative association or corporation
- 19 engaged in the business of operating a rural electrification
- 20 system or systems for the transmission or distribution of
- 21 electrical energy on a co-operative basis;
- 22 (i). Corporations or associations organized for the
- 23 exclusive purpose of holding title to property, collecting
- 24 income therefrom, and turning over the entire amount
- 25 thereof, less expenses, to an organization which itself is

- exempt from the tax imposed by this Title;
- 2 (k). In determining the license fee to be paid under
- 3 this act, there shall not be included any earnings derived
- 4 from any public utility managed or operated by any
- 5 subdivision of the state, or from the exercise of any
- 6 governmental function."

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