Senate Bill 476

In The Senate

February 13, 1981	Introduced and referred to Committee on Taxation.
March 16, 1981	Fiscal note requested.
March 19, 1981	Fiscal note returned.
March 23, 1981	Committee recommend bill do pass as amended.
March 24, 1981	Bill printed and placed on members' desks.
March 25, 1981	Second reading pass consideration.
March 26, 1981	Second reading indefinitely postponed.
March 27, 1981	On motion Senate reconsider its action taken on second reading. Motion failed.

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1 State BILL NO. 476
2 INTRODUCED BY WO Est Whelle Bob Prown

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO CREATE A MONTANA 5 MUNICIPAL BOND BANK: TO AUTHORIZE THE BOND BANK TO LEND 6 MONEY TO MUNICIPALITIES, SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS. 7 SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICTS, AND OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS 8 THROUGH THE PURCHASE BY THE BANK OF MUNICIPAL SECURITIES: TO AUTHORIZE THE BANK TO ISSUE BONDS AND NOTES IN ORDER TO 10 FINANCE ITS LOANS: TO PERMIT THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS TO 11 PURCHASE THE BONDS OF THE BANK; TO REMOVE INTEREST RATE 12 CEILINGS AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS FROM THE BONDS OF POLITICAL 1.3 SUBDIVISIONS FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT: AMENDING SECTION

14 15 17-6-103. MCA."

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Short title. [Sections 1]
through 19] may be cited as the "Montana Municipal Bond Bank
Act".

20 NEW_SECTION. Section 2. Policy. (1) It is declared to
21 be in the public interest and to be the policy of the state
22 of Montana to:

23 (a) foster and promote by all reasonable means the 24 provision of adequate capital markets and facilities for 25 berrowing money by counties, cities, towns, school districts, special taxing districts, or other political subdivisions or public corporations and for the financing of their respective public improvements and other municipal purposes within the state from proceeds of bonds or notes issued by those governmental units;

(b) assist those governmental units in fulfilling their needs for those purposes by creation of indebtedness;

(c) reduce, to the extent possible, costs of indebtedness to taxpayers and residents of the state; and

(d) encourage continued investor interest in the purchase of bonds or notes of those governmental units as sound and preferred securities for investment.

(2) It is in the public interest and is the policy of the state to encourage its governmental units to continue their independent undertakings of public improvements and other municipal purposes and the financing thereof and to assist them by making funds available at reduced interest costs for orderly financing of those purposes, especially during periods of restricted credit or money supply, particularly for those governmental units not otherwise able to borrow for such purposes.

(3) It is further declared that current credit and municipal band market conditions require the exercise of the powers of the state in the interest of its governmental units to promote and implement such policies by:

(a) authorizing a state instrumentality to borrow money and to issue its bonds and notes to make funds available through its facilities at reduced rates and on more favorable terms for borrowing by governmental units through the purchase by the instrumentality of the bonds or notes of the governmental units in fully marketable form; and

- (b) granting broad powers to the instrumentality to accomplish and to carry out these policies of the state.
- NEW SECTION. Section 3. Definitions. As used in [sections 1 through 19], the following definitions apply:
- (1) "Bank" or "bond bank" means the municipal bond bank created by [section 4].
- (2) "Bond bank finance account" or "finance account" means the account established as provided in [section 13].
- (3) "Bondholder" or "holder" or "noteholder" or any similar term if used with reference to a bond or note of the bank means any person who is the bearer of any outstanding bond or note of the bank, registered to bearer or not registered, or the registered owner of any outstanding bond or note of the bank that is at the time registered other than to bearer.
- (4) "Bonds" means bonds of the bank issued pursuant to [sections 1 through 19].
- (5) "Fully marketable form" means a municipal security

- executed and accompanied by an approving legal opinion of a bond counsel of recognized standing in the field of municipal law whose opinions are generally accepted by purchasers of municipal bonds. The municipal security so executed need not be printed or lithographed or be in more than one denomination.
- (6) "Governmental unit" means any county, city, town, municipality, or municipal corporation; any school district; or any special taxing district, special improvement district, or other political subdivision of state government or public corporation, including but not limited to any irrigation, drainage, conservancy, conservation, community college, utility, industrial development, transportation, or urban renewal district, authority, or commission. The term does not include the state of Montana, the board of regents, the board of examiners, the board of housing, or any other board, department, or commission of the state.
- 18 (7) "Municipal security" means a bond, note, or
 19 evidence of debt issued by a governmental unit and payable
 20 from taxes or from rates, charges, or assessments.
- 21 (8) "Notes" means any notes of the bank issued 22 pursuant to [sections 1 through 19].
- 23 (9) "Required debt service reserve" means the amount
 24 required to be on deposit in the reserve fund as prescribed
 25 by [section 12].

1 (10) "Reserve account" means the municipal bond bank
2 reserve account established as provided in [section 12].

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- (11) "Revenues" means all fees, charges, money, profits, payments of principal of or interest on municipal securities and other investments, gifts, grants, contributions, appropriations, and all other income derived or to be derived by the bank under [sections 1 through 19].
- NEW SECTION. Section 4. Municipal bond bank -- board of housing. (1) There is a municipal bond bank that consists of the board of housing created in 2-15-1008.
- (2) The bank is a public body corporate and is constituted as an instrumentality of the state exercising public and essential dovernmental functions. The exercise by the bank of the powers conferred by [sections 1 through 19] shall be considered an essential governmental function of the state.
- NEW SECTION. Section 5. Lending and borrowing powers generally loans to governmental units. (1) The bank, for the purposes authorized by [sections 1 through 19], may lend money to governmental units through the purchase by the bank of municipal securities of governmental units in fully marketable form. The bank may purchase or hold municipal securities of governmental units at the price and in the manner that the bank considers advisable and may sell municipal securities acquired or held by it at any price

- without relation to cost and in the manner that the bank considers advisable. The bank, for the purposes authorized by [sections 1 through 19], may issue its bonds and notes payable solely from the revenues or funds therefor available to the bank and may otherwise assist governmental units as provided in [sections 1 through 19]. All expenses incurred in carrying out the purposes of [sections 1 through 19] are payable solely from revenues or accounts provided under [sections 1 through 19], and nothing in [sections 1 through 19] may be construed to authorize the bank to incur any indebtedness or liability on behalf of or payable by the state.
- 13 (2) In connection with any loan to a governmental
 14 unit, the bank shall:

- (a) fix and prescribe the form of application or procedure to be required of the governmental unit for the purpose of any loan or the purchase of its municipal securities and fix the terms and conditions of the loan or purchase and enter into agreements with the governmental unit with respect to the loan or purchase;
- (b) consider the need, desirability, or eligibility of each loan, the ability of the governmental unit to secure borrowed money from other sources and the costs thereof and the particular public improvement or purpose to be financed by the municipal securities to be purchased by the bank; and

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(c) fix and establish each term and provision with respect to the purchase of municipal securities by the bank, including dates and maturities of the bonds, provisions as to redemption or payment prior to maturity, and any other matters that in connection therewith are necessary, desirable, or advisable in the judgment of the bank.

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- NEW SECTION: Section 6. Powers of the bank. (1) The bank has the powers granted to the board of housing under subsections (1): (2): (4): (5): (7): (8): (10): (16): and (19) of 90-6-104; and those provisions apply to [sections 1 through 19]:
 - (2) In addition, the bank has the following powers:
- (a) to make and enforce bylaws and rules for the conduct of its affairs and business and for use of its services and facilities;
- (b) to borrow money; to issue its negotiable bonds or notes; to provide for and secure the payment thereof and to provide for the rights of the holders thereof; and to purchase, hold, and dispose of any of its bonds or notes;
- (c) to invest any funds or money of the bank not then required for loan to governmental units and for the purchase of municipal securities in the manner provided in Title 17, chapter 6, except as otherwise permitted or provided by [sections 1 through 19]. All investment income from accounts of the bank less the cost for investment as prescribed by

- 1 law shall be deposited in the bond bank account from which
 2 derived.
- (d) to procure insurance against any losses in
 connection with its property, operations, or assets in such
 amounts and from such insurers as it considers desirable;
 - (e) to consent, to the extent permitted under its contracts with the holders of bonds or notes of the bank, to any modification with respect to rate of interest, time, and payment of any installment of principal or interest, security, or any other term of bond or note, contract, or agreement of any kind to which the bank is a party; and
- 12 (f) to do all acts and things necessary, convenient, 13 or desirable to carry out the powers expressly granted or 14 necessarily implied in [sections 1 through 19].
- NEW_SECTION. Section 7. Prohibited acts and limitation of powers. (1) Under [sections 1 through 19] the bank may not:
- 18 (a) make loans of money to any person, firm, or
 19 corporation other than a governmental unit or purchase
 20 securities issued by any person, firm, or corporation other
 21 than a governmental unit or for investment, except as
 22 provided in [sections 1 through 19];
 - (b) emit bills of credit or accept deposits of money for time or demand deposit or administer a trust or engage in any form or manner in or in the conduct of any private or

commercial banking business or act as a savings bank or savings and loan association; or

- (c) be or constitute a bank or trust company within the jurisdiction or under the control of the department of business regulation or the comptroller of the currency of the United States or the department of the treasury.
- (2) Nothing contained in [sections 1 through 19] may be construed to authorize the bank to be or to constitute a dealer in securities within the meaning of or subject to any securities law, securities exchange law, or securities dealers law of the United States or of this state or of any other state or jurisdiction, domestic or foreign.
- MEM_SECTION. Section 3. Bonds and notes of the bank.

 (1) The bank may, from time to time, issue its bonds in such principal amounts as it considers necessary to provide funds for any purposes authorized by [sections 1 through 19], including the making of loans; the payment, funding, or refunding of the principal of or interest or redemption premiums on any bonds issued by it, whether the bonds or interest to be funded or refunded have or have not become due or subject to redemption prior to meturity in accordance with their terms; the establishment or increase of reserves to secure or to pay the bonds or interest thereon; and all other costs or expenses of the bank incident to and necessary or convenient to carry out its purposes and

powers.

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- (2) The bank may issue its notes for any corporate purpose of the bank from time to time, in such principal amounts as it considers necessary and renew or pay and retire or refund such notes from the proceeds of bonds or of other notes or from any other funds or money of the bank available or to be made available for such purpose in accordance with any contract between the bank and the holders of the notes and not otherwise pledged.
- (3) The bank shall issue, secure, and purchase its bonds, notes, and refunding obligations in the manner provided in subsections (3) and (4) of 90-6-111, 90-6-112 through 90-6-118, 90-6-121, and 90-6-122, and the provisions of those sections apply to bonds and notes issued under [sections 1 through 19]. However, the bank may not pledge revenue, assets, property, or income of the board acquired under Title 90, chapter 6, part 1, to secure the payment of the notes or bonds.
- NEW SECTION. Section 9. Credit of state not pledged.

 Obligations issued under the provisions of [sections 1 through 19] do not constitute a debt or liability or obligation or a pledge of the faith and credit of the state but are payable solely from the revenues or assets of the board. An obligation issued under [sections 1 through 19] shall contain on the face thereof a statement to the effect

that the state of Montana is not liable on the obligation and the obligation is not a debt of the state and the faith and credit and the taxing power of the state are not pledged to the payment of the principal of or the interest on the obligation.

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NEW SECTION. Section 10. Tax exemption of bonds. Bonds, notes, or other obligations issued by the bank under [sections 1 through 19] and their income (including any profits made on their sale) are free from taxation by the state or any political subdivision or other instrumentality of the state, except inheritance, estate, and gift taxes. The bank is not required to pay recording or transfer fees or taxes on instruments recorded by it.

NEW SECTION. Section 11. Pledge of the state. In accordance with the constitutions of the United States and the state of Montana, the state pledges that it will not in any way impair the obligations of any agreement between the bank and the holders of notes and bonds issued by the bank, including but not limited to an agreement to administer a loan program financed by the issuance of bonds and to employ a staff sufficient and competent for this purpose.

NEW SECTION. Section 12. Reserve fund. The bank shall establish and maintain a reserve account called the municipal bond bank reserve account in the manner provided in 90-6-107(2). 90-6-119, and 90-6-120, and the provisions

of those sections apply to the reserve account and the use of revenues under (sections 1 through 19).

NEW SECTION. Section 13. Bond bank finance account.

4 (1) The bank shall establish and maintain an account in the bond proceeds and insurance clearance fund provided for in 6 17-2-102(6), called the bond bank finance account or finance account, that consists of and in which there are deposited:

- 8 (a) fees received or charges made by the bank for use9 of its services or facilities;
- (b) any money that the bank transfers thereto from thereserve account pursuant to [section 12];
- 12 (c) money received by the bank as:
- (i) payments of principal of or interest on municipalsecurities purchased by the bank;
- (ii) proceeds of sale of any municipal securities orinvestment obligations of the bank; or
- 17 (iii) proceeds of sale of bonds or notes of the bank;
 18 and
- 19 (d) money required, under the terms of any resolution 20 of the bank or contract with the holders of its bonds or 21 notes, to be deposited therein; and
- 22 (e) any money transferred thereto by the state from 23 any other finance account or made available for the purpose 24 of the finance account or for the operating expenses of the 25 bank.

any contracts between the bank and its bondholders or noteholders, be transferred to the reserve account or, if not so transferred, must be used for the payment of the principal of or interest on bonds or notes of the bank when the principal or interest becomes due and payable, whether at maturity or upon redemption, including payment of any premium upon redemption prior to maturity. Any money in the finance account may be used for the purchase of municipal securities and for all other purposes of the bank, including payment of its operating expenses.

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- (3) No amount may be paid or expended out of the finance account or from any subaccount therein, which account the bank may establish for the purpose of payment of its operating expenses, for operating expenses of the bank in any year in excess of the amount provided for the operating expenses of the bank by the annual budget then in effect with respect to such year or any amendment thereof in effect at the time of such payment or expenditure for operating expenses.
- (4) The bank may at any time use any available money in the finance account for the purchase of its bonds or notes or for the redemption thereof, and any such bonds purchased for retirement are thereupon canceled.
 - (5) The bank may establish in the finance account such

- subaccounts or special accounts which in the opinion of the bank are necessary, desirable, or convenient for the purposes of the bank under [sections 1 through 19].
- MEM_SECTION. Section 14. Additional reserves and funds. The bank may establish any additional and further reserves or other accounts that are necessary, desirable, or convenient to further the accomplishment of the purposes of the bank or to comply with the provisions of any agreement made by or any resolution of the bank.
- 10 NEW SECTION. Section 15. Bonds as legal investments and security. Notwithstanding any restrictions contained in 11 12 any other law, the state and all public officers, governmental units, and agencies thereof (including the 13 14 board of investments); all national banking associations. 15 banks, trust companies, savings banks and 16 inscitutions, building and loan associations, sayings and loan associations: investment companies, and other persons 17 carrying on a banking business; all insurance companies, 18 19 insurance associations, and other persons carrying on an 20 insurance business; and all executors, administrators, 21 quardians, trustees, and other fiduciaries may legally 22 invest any sinking funds, maney, or other funds belonging to 23 them or within their control in any bonds or notes issued by the bank pursuant to [sections 1 through 19], and the bonds 25 or notes are authorized security for any and all public

deposits.

NEW SECTION. Section 16. Exemption of property from execution sale — period of limitation. (1) All property of the bank is exempt from levy and sale by virtue of an execution, no execution or other judicial process may issue against the property, and no judgment against the bank may be a charge or lien upon its property; however, nothing contained in [sections 1 through 19] applies to or limits the rights of the holder of any bonds or notes to pursue any remedy for the enforcement of any pledge or lien given by the bank on its revenues or other money.

(2) Any action or proceeding in any court to set aside a resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds or notes by the bank under [sections 1 through 19] or to obtain any relief upon the ground that the resolution is invalid must be commenced within 30 days after the adoption of the resolution by the bank. After the expiration of the period of limitation, no right of action or defense founded upon the invalidity of the resolution or any of its provisions may be asserted and the validity of the resolution or any of its provisions 4s not open to question in any court on any ground whatever.

NEW_SECTION. Section 17. Purchase or exchange of municipal securities. (1) Notwithstanding any law applicable to or constituting any limitation on the maximum rate of

interest per year payable on bonds or notes or to annual interest cost to maturity of money borrowed or received upon issuance of bonds or notes, every governmental unit is authorized to contract to pay interest on or an interest cost per year for money borrowed from the bank and evidenced by its municipal securities purchased by the bank without regard to any statutory limitations as to rate of interest per year payable or as to annual interest cost to maturity of money borrowed by the governmental unit. Every governmental unit is authorized to contract with the bank with respect to the loan or purchase, and the contract shall contain the terms and conditions of such loan or purchase. Every governmental unit is authorized to pay fees and charges required to be paid to the bank for its services.

(2) Notwithstanding any law applicable to or constituting any limitation on the sale of bonds or notes, except the limitation on amount of bonded indebtedness, any governmental unit may sell bonds or notes to the bank without limitation as to denomination and the bonds or notes may be fully registered or registerable as to principal only or in bearer form or may bear interest at the rate or rates, all in accordance with this section, may be evidenced in the manner and may contain other provisions not inconsistent herewith, and may be sold to the bank without advertisement at the price or prices as may be determined, all as provided

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in the proceedings of the governing body of the governmental unit pursuant to which the bonds or notes are authorized to be issued. The governing body of the governmental unit may provide for the exchange of coupon bonds for fully registered bonds and of fully registered bonds for coupon bonds and for the exchange of any such bonds after issuance for bonds of larger or smaller denominations, all in the manner provided in the proceedings authorizing their issuance, provided the bonds in changed form or denominations are exchanged for the surrendered bonds in the same aggregate principal amounts and in such manner that no overlapping interest is paid and the bonds in changed form or denominations bear interest at the same rate or rates and mature on the same date or dates as the bonds for which they are exchanged. If any exchange is made under this subsection, the bonds surrendered by the holders at the time of the exchange shall be canceled. The exchange may be made only at the request of the holders of the bonds to be surrendered. The governmental unit may require all expenses incurred in connection with the exchange to be paid by the holders. In case any of the officers whose signatures appear on the bonds or coupons cease to be officers before the delivery of the bonds, the signatures shall be valid or sufficient for all purposes, the same as if they had remained in office.

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NEW SECTION. Section 18. Purchase of enticipation notes. The bank may purchase notes of any governmental unit issued in anticipation of the sale of municipal securities in an amount not exceeding at any one time outstanding the authorized amount of the municipal securities. The issue and sale of the anticipation notes must be in accordance with the laws applying to the governmental unit issuing such notes. In connection with any purchase of anticipation notes, the bank may by agreement with the governmental unit impose the terms, conditions, and limitations that in its opinion are proper in the circumstances and for the purposes and security of the bank and the holders of its bonds or notes; and the bank shall thereupon enforce all the rights, remedies, and provisions of law that it has under this section or as otherwise provided by law.

NEW SECTION. Section 19. Application of money. Money or investments in any account of the bank established or held for any bonds, notes, indebtedness, or liability to be paid, funded, or refunded by issuance of bonds or notes shall, unless the resolution authorizing the bonds or notes provides otherwise, be applied to the payment or retirement of the bonds, notes, indebtedness, or liability and to no other purpose. In the event that there is in any account any money in excess of the amount required for the payment, funding, or refunding of the bonds, the money may be removed

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2 investments thereafter remaining in the account are not less 3 than the outstanding bonds, notes, indebtedness, or 4 liability of the bank to be paid, funded, or refunded and 5 for which the account was established or held. 6 Section 20. Section 17-6-103, MCA, is amended to read: 7 *17-6-103. Security for deposits of public funds. The 8 following kinds of securities may be pledged or quarantees 9 may be issued to secure deposits of public funds: 10 (1) direct obligations of the United States; 11 (2) securities as to which the payment of principal 12 and interest is quaranteed by the United States; 13 (3) securities issued or fully quaranteed by the following agencies of the United States or their successors, 14 whether or not quaranteed by the United States: 15 16 (a) commodity credit corporation; 17 federal intermediate credit banks: 18 (c) federal land bank; 19 bank for cooperatives: federal home loan banks; 20 21 federal national mortgage association;

from the account but only to the extent that the money or

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- county, city, school district, or other political subdivision of the state:
- (5) revenue bonds of any county, city, or other political subdivision of the state, when backed by the full faith and credit of such subdivision or when the revenues pledged to the payment of the bonds are derived from a water or sewer system and the issuer has covenanted to establish and maintain rates and charges for the system in an amount sufficient to produce revenues equal to at least 125% of the average annual principal and interest due on all bonds payable for such revenues during the outstanding term of such bonds:
- (6) interest-bearing warrants of the state or of any county, city, school district, or other political subdivision of the state issued in evidence of claims in an amount which, with all other claims on the same fund, do not exceed the amount validly appropriated in the current budget for expenditure from the fund in the year in which they are issued;
- (7) obligations of housing authorities of the state secured by a pledge of annual contributions or by a loan agreement made by the United States or any agency thereof providing for contributions or a loan sufficient with other funds pledged to pay the principal of and interest on the obligations when due. Subject to rules prescribed by the

general obligation bonds of the state or of any

government national mortgage association;

small business administration; and

federal housing administration:

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- department of community affairs, the bonds and other obligations made eligible for investment in 32-1-424(3) and 7-15-4505 may be used as security for all deposits of public funds or obligations for which depository bonds or any kind of bonds or other securities are required or may by law be deposited as security.
- 7 (8) general obligation bonds of other states and of 8 municipalities, counties, and school districts of other 9 states;
- (9) undertaking or guarantees issued by a suretycompany authorized to do business in the state;

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- (10) first mortgages and trust indentures on real property. The depository shall, on a quarterly basis, certify to the state treasurer that sufficient first mortgages and trust indentures on real property are available and segregated to secure deposits of public funds. The board of investments shall determine the amount of security required.
- 19 (11) bonds issued pursuant to Title 7. chapter 12.
 20 parts 21 and 41:
- 21 (12) bonds issued pursuant to Title 90, chapter 6, part 22 1;
- 23 (13) revenue bonds issued by any unit of the university
 24 system of the state of Montana; and
- 25 (14) advance refunded bonds secured by direct

1 obligations of the United States treasury held in 2 irrevocable escrow<u>el and</u>

3 (15) bonds issued pursuant to [sections 1 through 19].*
4 Section 21. Codification instruction. Section 4 is
5 intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 2,
6 chapter 15, part 10, and the provisions of Title 2, chapter
7 15, apply to section 4. However, if ___3ill No.___ (LC 1350)
8 is passed and approved, section 4 is intended to be codified
9 in Title 2, chapter 15, part 18.

Section 22. Severability. If a part of this act is invalid, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid part remain in affect. If a part of this act is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part remains in affect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid applications.

-End-

STATE OF MONTANA

REQUEST NO. 431-81

FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received <u>March 16</u> , 19 <u>81</u> , there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note
for Senate Bill 476 pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 4, Part 2 of the Montana Code Annotated (MCA).
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

Senate Bill 476 is an act to create a Montana Municipal Bond Bank; to authorize the bond bank to lend money to political subdivisions through the purchase by the bank of municipal securities; to authorize the bank to issue bonds and notes in order to finance its loans; to permit the Board of Investments to purchase the bonds of the bank; to remove interest rate ceilings and other restrictions from the bonds of political subdivisions.

Assumptions

- 1. No limit on sale of bonds.
- 2. Sale of \$50 million of bonds in each year of the biennium.
- 3. 1/8% arbitrage limitation.
- 4. General Fund to finance initial activity to be repaid when possible.
- 5. A supreme court test is not necessary.
- 6. Requires 2 FTE and operating expenses for same.

Fiscal Impact	FY 1982	FY 1983	Total Biennium
Expenditures Under Proposed Law Personal Services Operating Expenses Equipment	\$38,757 29,000 2,000	\$42,635 29,000	\$81,392 58,000 2,000
Total Expenditures Under Proposed Law	\$69 , 757	\$71,635	\$141,392

Funding: General Fund

Comment

Section 10 of this proposal provides that bonds and other obligations issued by the proposed Municipal Bond Bank shall be tax exempt. It is not possible to estimate the revenue impact of this exemption.

BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

Date: 3-20-81

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Approved by Committee on Taxation

2	INTRODUCED BY TOWE, ECK, McCALLUM, 8. BROWN
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4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO CREATE A MONTANA
5	MUNICIPAL BOND BANK; TO AUTHORIZE THE BOND BANK TO LEND
6	MONEY TO MUNICIPALITIES
7	SPECIALFAXINGDISTRICTSAND-OTHER-POLITICAL-SUBDIVISIONS
8	AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS THROUGH THE PURCHASE BY THE BANK OF
9	MUNICIPAL SECURITIES; TO AUTHORIZE THE BANK TO ISSUE BONDS
.0	AND NOTES IN ORDER TO FINANCE ITS LOANS: TO PERMIT THE BOARD
11	OF INVESTMENTS TO PURCHASE THE BONDS OF THE BANK: TO REMOVE
12	INTEREST RATE CEILINGS AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS FROM THE BONDS
13	OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT; AMENDING
14	SECTION 17-6-103+ MCA-4
15	
16	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
17	NEW SECTION. Section 1. Short title. [Sections 1
18	through 19] may be cited as the "Montana Municipal Bond Bank
19	Act*•
20	NEW SECTION. Section 2. Policy. (1) It is declared to
21	be in the public interest and to be the policy of the state
22	of Montana to:

(a) foster and promote by all reasonable means the

provision of adequate capital markets and facilities for

borrowing money by counties, cities, towns, <u>DR</u> school

SENATE BILL NO. 476

districtSv-specialtaxingdistrictsvorotherpalities
subdivisions-or-public-corporations and for the financing of
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(b) assist those governmental units in fulfilling
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- (a) authorizing a state instrumentality to borrow money and to issue its bonds and notes to make funds available through its facilities at reduced rates and on more favorable terms for borrowing by governmental units through the purchase by the instrumentality of the bonds or notes of the governmental units in fully marketable form; and
- 8 (b) granting broad powers to the instrumentality to9 accomplish and to carry out these policies of the state.
 - NEW SECTION. Section 3. Definitions. As used in [sections 1 through 19], the following definitions apply:
 - (1) "Qank" or "bond bank" means the municipal bond bank created by [section 4].
 - (2) "Bond bank finance account" or "finance account" means the account established as provided in [section 13].
 - (3) "Bondholder" or "holder" or "noteholder" or any similar term if used with reference to a bund or note of the bank means any person who is the bearer of any outstanding bond or note of the bank, registered to bearer or not registered, or the registered owner of any outstanding bond or note of the bank that is at the time registered other than to bearer.
- 23 (4) "monds" means bonds of the bank issued pursuant to 24 [sections I through 19].
 - (5) "Fully marketable form" means a municipal security

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- executed and accompanied by an approving legal opinion of a bond counsel of recognized standing in the field of municipal law whose opinions are generally accepted by purchasers of municipal bonds. The municipal security so executed need not be printed or lithographed or be in more than one denomination.
- (b) "Governmental unit" means any country city, town, municipality, or municipal-corporation; any school district; or—any—apecial—taxing—districty—special—improvement districty—or—other—political—subdivision—of—state—government or—public—corporationy—including—but—inot—limited—to—any irrigationy—dramagey—conservancy—conservationy—community collegey—utilityy—industrial—developmenty—transportationy—or urban—renewal—districty—authorityy—or—commission— The term does not include the state of Montana, the board of regents, the board of examiners, the board of housing, or any other board, department, or commission of the state.
- 18 (7) "Municipal security" means a bond, note, or
 19 evidence of debt issued by a governmental unit and payable
 20 from taxes or from rates, charges, or assessments.
- 21 (8) "Notes" means any notes of the bank issued 22 pursuant to [sections 1 through 19].
- 23 (9) "Required debt service reserve" means the amount 24 required to be on deposit in the reserve fund as prescribed 25 by [section 12].

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(10) "Reserve account" means the municipal bond bank reserve account established as provided in [section 12].

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- (11) "Revenues" means all fees, charges, money, profits, payments of principal of or interest on municipal securities and other investments, gifts, grants, contributions, appropriations, and all other income derived or to be derived by the bank under [sections 1 through 19], SEW SECTION. Section 4. Municipal bond bank -- board
- of the board of housing created in 2-15-1008.
- (2) The bank is a public body corporate and is constituted as an instrumentality of the state exercising public and essential governmental functions. The exercise by the bank of the powers conferred by [sections I through 19] shall be considered an essential governmental function of the state.
- NEW SECTION. Section 5. Lending and borrowing powers generally —— loans to governmental units: (1) The bank, for the purposes authorized by [sections 1 through 19], may lend money to governmental units through the purchase by the bank of municipal securities of governmental units in fully marketable form. The bank may purchase or hold municipal securities of governmental units at the price and in the manner that the bank considers advisable and may sell municipal securities acquired or held by it at any price

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- without relation to cost and in the manner that the bank considers advisable. The bank, for the purposes authorized by (sections 1 through 191, may issue its bonds and notes payable solely from the revenues or funds therefor available to the bank and may otherwise assist governmental units as provided in isections I through 19]. All expenses incurred 7 in Carrying out the purposes of [sections I through 19] are payable solely from revenues or accounts provided under [sections 1 through 19], and nothing in [sections 1 through 9 10 19] may be construed to authorize the bank to incur any indebtedness or liability on behalf of or payable by the 11 12 state.
- 13 (2) In connection with any loan to a governmental 14 unit; the bank small:

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- (a) fix and prescribe the form of application or procedure to be required of the governmental unit for the purpose of any loan or the purchase of its municipal securities and fix the terms and conditions of the loan or purchase and enter into agreements with the governmental unit with respect to the loan or purchase;
 - (b) consider the need, desirability, or eligibility of each loan, the ability of the governmental unit to secure porrowed money from other sources and the costs thereof and the particular public improvement or purpose to be financed by the municipal securities to be purchased by the bank; and

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(c) fix and establish each term and provision with respect to the purchase of municipal securities by the bank, including dates and maturities of the bonds, provisions as to redemption or payment prior to maturity, and any other matters that in connection therewith are necessary, desirable, or advisable in the judgment of the bank.

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- <u>NEW SECTION</u>. Section 6. Powers of the bank. (1) The bank has the powers granted to the board of housing under subsections (1), (2), (4), (5), (7), (8), (10), (16), and (19) of 90-6-104, and those provisions apply to [sections 1 through 19].
 - (2) In addition, the bank has the following powers:
- (a) to make and enforce bylaws and rules for the conduct of its affairs and business and for use of its services and facilities;
- (b) to borrow money; to issue its negotiable bands or notes; to provide for and secure the payment thereof and to provide for the rights of the holders thereof; and to purchase, hold, and dispose of any of its bonds or notes;
- (c) to invest any funds or money of the bank not then required for loan to governmental units and for the purchase of municipal securities in the manner provided in Title 17. chapter 6. except as otherwise permitted or provided by [sections 1 through 19]. All investment income from accounts of the bank less the cost for investment as prescribed by

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1 law shall be deposited in the bond bank account from which 2 derived.

- (d) to procure insurance against any losses in
 connection with its property, operations, or assets in such
 amounts and from such insurers as it considers desirable;
- fe (e) to consent, to the extent permitted under its
 contracts with the holders of bonds or notes of the bank, to
 any modification with respect to rate of interest, time, and
 payment of any installment of principal or interest,
 security, or any other term of bond or note, contract, or
 agreement of any kind to which the bank is a party; and
- 12 (f) to do all acts and things necessary, convenient, 13 or desirable to carry out the powers expressly granted or 14 necessarily implied in [sections 1 through 19].
- 15 <u>MEW_SECTION.</u> Section 7. Prohibited acts and 16 limitation of powers. (1) Under [sections 1 through 19] the 17 bank may not:
- (a) make loans of money to any person, fire, or corporation other than a governmental unit or purchase securities issued by any person, firm, or corporation other than a governmental unit or for investment, except as provided in [sections 1 through 19];
 - (b) emit bills of credit or accept deposits of money

 for time or demand deposit or administer a trust or engage

 in any form or manner in or in the conduct of any private or

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1 commercial banking business or act as a savings bank or 2 savings and loan association; or

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- (c) be or constitute a bank or trust company within the jurisdiction or under the control of the department of business regulation or the comptroller of the currency of the United States or the department of the treasury.
- (2) Nothing contained in [sections I through 19] may be construed to authorize the bank to be or to constitute a dealer in securities within the meaning of or subject to any securities law, securities exchange law, or securities dealers law of the United States or of this state or of any other state or jurisdiction, domestic or foreign.

MEM_SECTION: Section 8. Sonds and notes of the bank.

(1) The bank may, from time to time, issue its bonds in such principal amounts as it considers necessary to provide funds for any purposes authorized by [sections 1 through 19], including the making of loans; the payment, funding, or refunding of the principal of or interest or redemption premiums on any bonds issued by it, whether the bonds or interest to be funded or refunded have or have not become due or subject to redemption prior to maturity in accordance with their terms; the establishment or increase of reserves to secure or to pay the bonds or interest thereon; and all other costs or expenses of the bank incident to and necessary or convenient to carry out its purposes and

powers.

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- 2 (2) The bank may issue its notes for any corporate
 3 purpose of the bank from time to time. In such principal
 4 amounts as it considers necessary and renew or pay and
 5 retire or refund such notes from the proceeds of bonds or of
 6 other notes or from any other funds or money of the bank
 7 available or to be made available for such purpose in
 8 accordance with any contract between the bank and the
 9 holders of the notes and not otherwise pledged.
- 19 (3) The bank shall issue, secure, and purchase its bonds, notes, and refunding obligations in the manner 11 provided in subsections (3) and (4) of 90-6-111, 90-6-112 12 13 through 90-6-118, 90-6-121, and 90-6-122, and the provisions of those sections apply to bonds and notes issued under 14 [sections | 1 through | 19]. However, the bank may not pledge 15 revenue, assets, property, or income of the board acquired 16 17 under Title 90, chapter 6, part 1, to secure the payment of 18 the notes or bonds.
 - NEW SECTION. Section 9. Credit of state not pledged. Obligations issued under the provisions of [sections 1 through 19] do not constitute a debt or liability or obligation or a pledge of the faith and credit of the state but are payable solely from the revenues or assets of the board. An obligation issued under [sections 1 through 19] shall contain on the face thereof a statement to the effect

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that the state of Montana is not liable on the obligation and the obligation is not a debt of the state and the faith and credit and the taxing power of the state are not pledged to the payment of the principal of or the interest on the obligation.

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NEW SECTION. Section 10. Tax exemption of bonds. Bonds, notes, or other obligations issued by the bank under [sections 1 through 19] and their income (including any profits made on their sale) are free from taxation by the state or any political subdivision or other instrumentality of the state, except inheritance, estate, and gift taxes. The bank is not required to pay recording or transfer fees or taxes on instruments recorded by it.

<u>NEW SECTION</u>. Section 11. Pledge of the state. In accordance with the constitutions of the United States and the state of Montana, the state pledges that it will not in any way impair the obligations of any agreement between the bank and the holders of notes and bonds issued by the bank, including but not limited to an agreement to administer a loan program financed by the issuance of bonds and to employ a staff sufficient and competent for this purpose.

NEW SECTION. Section 12. Reserve fund. The bank shall establish and maintain a reserve account called the municipal bond bank reserve account in the manner provided in 90-6-107(2). 90-6-119. and 90-6-120. and the provisions

- of those sections apply to the reserve account and the use of revenues under (sections 1 through 19%
- 3 NEW SECTION. Section 13. Bond bank finance account.
- 4 (1) The bank shall establish and maintain an account in the
- 5 bond proceeds and insurance clearance fund provide: for in
- 6 17-2-102(6), called the bond bank finance account or finance
- 7 account: that consists of and in which there are demosited:
- 8 (a) fees received or charges made by the bank for use
- 9 of its services or facilities:
- 10 (b) any money that the bank transfers thereto from the
- 11 reserve account pursuant to [section 12];
- (c) money received by the bank as:
- (i) payments of principal of or interest on municipalsecurities purchased by the bank;
- 15 (ii) proceeds of sale of any municipal securities or 16 investment obligations of the bank; or
- (iii) proceeds of sale of bonds or notes of the bank;and
- 19 (d) money required, under the terms of my resolution 20 of the bank or contract with the holders of its bonds or 21 notes, to be deposited therein; and
 - (e) any money transferred thereto by the state from any other finance account or made available for the nurpose of the finance account or for the operating expenses of the bank.

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any contracts between the bank and its bondholders or noteholders, be transferred to the reserve account or, if not so transferred, must be used for the payment of the principal of or interest on bonds or notes of the bank when the principal or interest becomes due and payable, whether at maturity or upon redemption, including payment of any premium upon redemption prior to maturity. Any money in the finance account may be used for the purchase of municipal securities and for all other purposes of the bank, including payment of its operating expenses.

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- (3) No amount may be paid or expended out of the finance account or from any subaccount therein, which account the bank may establish for the purpose of payment of its operating expenses, for operating expenses of the bank in any year in excess of the amount provided for the operating expenses of the bank by the annual budget than in effect with respect to such year or any amendment thereof in effect at the time of such payment or expenditure for operating expenses.
- (4) The bank may at any time use any available money in the finance account for the purchase of its bonds or notes or for the redemption thereof, and any such bonds purchased for retirement are thereupon canceled.
- (5) The pank may establish in the finance account such

- subaccounts or special accounts which in the opinion of the bank are necessary, desirable, or convenient for the purposes of the bank under [sections 1 through 19].
- 4 <u>NEW_SECTION</u>. Section 14. Additional reserves and funds. The bank may establish any additional and further reserves or other accounts that are necessary, desirable, or convenient to further the accomplishment of the purposes of the bank or to comply with the provisions of any agreement made by or any resolution of the bank.
- 10 NEW SECTION. Section 15. Bonds as legal investments 11 and security. Notwithstanding any restrictions contained in 12 any other law, the state and all public officers, 13 governmental units, and agencies thereof (including the board of investments); all national banking associations, 14 15 banks, trust companies, savings banks and 16 institutions, building and loan associations, savings and 17 loan associations, investment companies, and other persons 18 carrying on a banking business; all insurance companies, 12 insurance associations, and other persons carrying on an 20 insurance pusiness; and all executors, administrators, 21 guardians, trustees, and other fiduciaries may legally invest any sinking funds, money, or other funds belonging to 22 23 them or within their control in any bonds or notes issued by 24 the bank pursuant to [sections 1 through 19], and the bonds 25 or notes are authorized security for any and all public

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deposits.

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NEW SECTION. Section 16. Exemption of property from execution sale — period of limitation. (1) All property of the bank is exempt from levy and sale by virtue of an execution, no execution or other judicial process may issue against the property, and no judgment against the bank may be a charge or lien upon its property; nowever, nothing contained in [sections 1 through 19] applies to or limits the rights of the holder of any bonds or notes to pursue any remedy for the enforcement of any pledge or lien given by the bank on its revenues or other money.

(2) Any action or proceeding in any court to set aside a resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds or notes by the bank under [sections 1 through 19] or to obtain any relief upon the ground that the resolution is invalid must be commenced within 30 days after the adoption of the resolution by the bank. After the expiration of the period of limitation, no right of action or defense founded upon the invalidity of the resolution or any of its provisions may be asserted and the validity of the resolution or any of its provisions is not open to question in any court on any ground whatever.

NEW SECTION. Section 17. Purchase or exchange of municipal securities. (1) Notwithstanding any law applicable to or constituting any limitation on the maximum rate of

interest per year payable on bonds or notes or to annual interest cost to maturity of money borrowed or received upon issuance of bonds or notas, every governmental unit is authorized to contract to pay interest on or an interest cost per year for money borrowed from the bank and evidenced by its municipal securities purchased by the bank without regard to any statutory limitations as to rate of incerest per year payable or as to annual interest cost to maturity of money borrowed by the governmental unit. Every governmental unit is authorized to contract with the bank with respect to the loan or purchase, and the contract shall contain the terms and conditions of such loan or purchase. Every governmental unit is authorized to pay feas and charges required to be paid to the bank for its services.

(2) Notwithstanding any law applicable to or constituting any limitation on the sale of bonds or notes. except the limitation on amount of bonded indebtedness, any governmental unit may sell bonds or notes to the bank without limitation as to denomination and the bonds or notes may be fully registered or registerable as to principal only or in bearer form or may bear interest at the rate or rates, all in accordance with this section, may be evidenced in the manner and may contain other provisions not inconsistent herewith, and may be sold to the bank without advertisement at the price or prices as may be determined, all as provided

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in the proceedings of the governing body of the governmental unit pursuant to which the bonds or notes are authorized to be issued. The governing body of the governmental unit may provide for the exchange of coupon bonds for fully registered bonds and of fully registered bonds for coupon bonds and for the exchange of any such bonds after issuance for bonds of larger or smaller denominations, all in the manner provided in the proceedings authorizing their issuance, provided the bonds in changed form or denominations are exchanged for the surrendered bonds in the same aggregate principal amounts and in such manner that no overlapping interest is paid and the bonds in changed form or denominations bear interest at the same rate or rates and mature on the same date or dates as the bonds for which they are exchanged. If any exchange is made under subsection, the bonds surrendered by the holders at the time of the exchange shall be canceled. The exchange may be made only at the request of the holders of the bonds to be surrendered. The governmental unit may require all expenses incurred in connection with the exchange to be paid by the holders. In case any of the officers whose signatures appear on the bonds or coupons cause to be officers before the delivery of the bonds, the signatures shall be valid or sufficient for all purposes, the same as if they had remained in office.

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1 NEW SECTION. Section 18. Purchase of anticipation 2 notes. The bank may purchase notes of any governmental unit 3 issued in anticipation of the sale of municipal securities in an amount not exceeding at any one time outstanding the 5 authorized amount of the municipal securities. The issue and 6 sale of the anticipation notes must be in accordance with 7 the laws applying to the governmental unit issuing such notes. In connection with any purchase of anticipation notes, the bank may by agreement with the governmental unit 10 impose the terms, conditions, and limitations that in its 11 opinion are proper in the circumstances and for the purposes 12 and security of the bank and the holders of its bonds or notes; and the bank shall thereupon enforce all the rights. 13 remedies, and provisions of law that it has under this 14 15 section or as otherwise provided by law.

NEW SECIION: Section 19. Application of money. Money or investments in any account of the bank established or held for any bonds, notes, indebtedness, or liability to be paid, funded, or refunded by issuance of bonds or notes shall, unless the resolution authorizing the bonds or notes provides otherwise, be applied to the payment or retirement of the bonds, notes, indebtedness, or liability and to no other purpose. In the event that there is in any account any money in excess of the amount required for the payment, funding, or refunding of the bonds, the money may be removed

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- 1 from the account but only to the extent that the money or
- 2 investments thereafter remaining in the account are not less
- 3 than the outstanding bonds, notes, indebtedness, or
- 4 liability of the bank to be paid, funged, or refunded and
 - for which the account was established or held.
- 6 Section 20. Section 17-6-103, PCA, is amended to read:
- 7 "17-6-103. Security for deposits of public funds. The
- В following kinds of securities may be pledged or guarantees
- 9 may be issued to secure deposits of public funds:
- 10 (1) direct obligations of the United States:
- 11 (2) securities as to which the payment of principal
- and interest is guaranteed by the United States; 12
- 13 (3) securities issued or fully quaranteed by the
- 14 following agencies of the United States or their successors.
- 15 whether or not quaranteed by the United States:
- 16 (a) commodity credit corporation;
- 17 (b) federal intermediate credit banks:
- (c) federal land bank; 18

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- 19 bank for cooperatives;
- 20 federal home loan banks:
- federal national mortgage association; 21
- 22 government national mortgage association;
- 23 small business administration; and
- 24 (i) federal housing administration;
- 25 (4) general obligation bonds of the state or of any

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- 1 county, city, school district, or other political 2 subdivision of the state;
- 3 (5) revenue bonds of any county, city, or other
- political subdivision of the state, when backed by the full 5 faith and credit of such subdivision or when the revenues
- pledged to the payment of the bonds are derived from a water 5
- or sewer system and the issuer has covenanted to establish 8
- and maintain rates and charges for the system in an amount
- sufficient to produce revenues equal to at least 125% of the
- average annual principal and interest due on all bonds 10
- payable for such revenues during the outstanding term of 11
- 12 such bonds:

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- 13 (6) interest-bearing warrants of the state or of any
- 14 county, city, school district, or other political
- 15 subdivision of the state issued in evidence of claims in an
- amount which, with all other claims on the same fund, do not 16
- exceed the amount validly appropriated in the current budget 17
- 16 for expenditure from the fund in the year in which they are
- 19 issued:
- 20 (7) obligations of housing authorities of the state
- secured by a pledge of annual contributions or by a loan 21
- 22 agreement made by the United States or any agency thereof
- providing for contributions or a loan sufficient with other 23
- 24 funds pledged to pay the principal of and interest on the
- obligations when due. Subject to rules prescribed by the 25

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- department of community affairs, the bonds and other obligations made eligible for investment in 32-1-424(3) and 7-i5-4505 may be used as security for all deposits of public funds or obligations for which depository bonds or any kind of bonds or other securities are required or may by law be deposited as security.
- 7 (8) general obligation bonds of other states and of 8 municipalities, counties, and school districts of other 9 states;
- (9) undertaking or guarantees issued by a surety
 11 company authorized to do business in the state;
- 12 (10) first mortgages and trust indentures on real
 13 property. The depository shall, on a quarterly basis,
 14 certify to the state treasurer that sufficient first
 15 mortgages and trust indentures on real property are
 16 available and segregated to secure deposits of public funds.
 17 The board of investments shall determine the amount of
 18 security required.
- 19 (11) bonds issued pursuant to Title 7, chapter 12, 20 parts 21 and 41;
- 21 (12) bonds issued pursuant to Title 90, chapter 6, part 22 1:
- (13) revenue bonds issued by any unit of the university
 system of the state of Montana; and
- 25 (14) advance refunded bonds secured by direct

- t obligations of the United States treasury held in 2 irrevocable escrow=; and
- 3 (15) bonds issued pursuant to [sections 1 through 19]."
 4 Section 21. Codification instruction. Section 4 is
 5 intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 2.
 6 chapter 15. part 10. and the provisions of Title 2. chapter
 7 15. apply to section 4. However, if ______ Bill No.____ (LC 1350)
 8 is passed and approved, section 4 is intended to be codified
 9 in Title 2. chapter 15. part 18.
 - Section 22. Severability. If a part of this act is invalid, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid part remain in effect. If a part of this act is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part remains in effect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid applications.

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