HOUSE BILL 227

Introduced by Toole, et al.

1/19 Introduced

- 1/19 Referred to State Administration
- 1/19 First Reading
- 1/19 Fiscal Note Requested
- 1/25 Fiscal Note Received
- 1/28 Fiscal Note Printed
- 1/29 Hearing
- 2/17 Committee Report--Bill Passed as Amended
- 2/18 Revised Fiscal Note Requested
- 2/19 Revised Fiscal Note Received
- 2/20 Revised Fiscal Note Printed
- 2/22 Taken from 2nd Reading and Rereferred to Appropriations
- 3/03 Revised Fiscal Note Requested by Sponsor
- 3/03 Sponsor-Requested Fiscal Note Received
- 3/03 Sponsor-Requested Fiscal Note Printed
- 3/03 Tabled in Committee

HOWE BUL NO. 227 1 INTRODUCED BY 2 where the Blanhart 3 "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING THE FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: A TSCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND FINANCIAL REPORTING 5 REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS; REQUIRING DISCLOSURE OF A 6 CONFLICT OF INTEREST; TRANSFERRING AUTHORITY FOR THE 7 ENPORCEMENT OF ETHICS LAWS FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO 8 THE COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES: AUTHORIZING THE 9 COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES TO CONDUCT EDUCATIONAL 10 11 PROGRAMS AND ISSUE ADVISORY OPINIONS; REQUIRING THAT 12 FINANCIAL REPORTING BE EXPANDED IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE 13 COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES TO DETERMINE WHETHER A CONFLICT OF INTEREST EXISTS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 2-2-102, 14 2-2-103, 2-2-104, 2-2-105, 2-2-121, 15 2-2-125, 2-2-131, 16 2-2-132, 2-2-201, 5-7-103, 5-7-213, AND 5-11-203, MCA."

17 18

STATEMENT OF INTENT

19 A statement of intent is required for this bill because 20 [section 11] grants rulemaking authority to the commissioner 21 of political practices to require the disclosure of 22 financial information. The commissioner may require the 23 disclosure of financial information not listed in [section 24 11] only if the commissioner decides that the information is 25 necessary for determining if an elected official has a

conflict of interest.

1

2

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

4 Section 1. Section 2-2-102, MCA, is amended to read:

5 **°2-2-102. Definitions.** As used in this part, the 6 following definitions apply:

7 (1) "Business" includes a corporation, partnership,
8 sole proprietorship, trust or foundation, or any other
9 individual or organization carrying on a business, whether
10 or not operated for profit.

(2) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of political
 practices as established in 2-15-411.

13 (2)(3) "Compensation" means any money, <u>a</u> thing of
14 value, or <u>an</u> economic benefit conferred on or received by
15 any person in return for services rendered or to be rendered
16 by himself the person or another.

17 (3)(4) "Employee" means any <u>a</u> temporary or permanent 18 employee of the state or any <u>a</u> subdivision thereof <u>of the</u> 19 <u>state</u> or <u>a</u> member of the judiciary, including a member of a 20 board, commission, or committee except a legislator and an 21 employee under contract to the state.

t4)(5) "Financial interest" means an interest held by
an individual₇-his or by the individual's spouse₇ or minor
children which that is:

25 (a) an ownership interest in a business;

-2-HB 227 INTRODUCED BILL

(b) a creditor interest in an insolvent business;
 (c) an employment or prospective employment for which
 negotiations have begun;

4 (d) an ownership interest in real or personal property;

5 (e) a loan or other debtor interest; or

6 (f) a directorship or officership in a business.

7 (5)(6) "Official act" or "official action" means a
8 vote, decision, recommendation, approval, disapproval, or
9 other action, including inaction, which that involves the
10 use of discretionary authority.

11 (6)(7) "Public officer" includes any <u>a</u> state officer
12 except-a-legislator-or-member-of-the--judiciary or any <u>an</u>
13 elected officer of any <u>a</u> subdivision of the state. <u>The term</u>
14 <u>does not include a legislator or a member of the judiciary.</u>

15 (7)(8) "State agency" includes the state; the 16 legislature and its committees; all executive departments, 17 boards, commissions, committees, bureaus, and offices; the 18 university system; and all independent commissions and other 19 establishments of the state government except the courts.

20 (8)(9) "State officer" includes all elected officers
 21 and directors of the executive branch of state government as
 22 defined in 2-15-102."

23 Section 2. Section 2-2-103, MCA, is amended to read:
 24 "2-2-103. Public trust. (1) The holding of public
 25 office or employment is a public trust, created by the

confidence which that the electorate reposes in the
 integrity of public officers, legislators, and employees. A
 public officer, legislator, or employee shall carry out his
 the individual's duties for the benefit of the people of the
 state.

6 (2) A public officer, legislator, or employee whose conduct departs from his the individual's fiduciary duty is 7 liable to the people of the state as a trustee of property, я 9 and is liable to a beneficiary under 72-34-1057. and--shall 10 suffer--such--other-liabilities-as The individual is subject 11 to the liability that a private fiduciary would suffer for 12 an abuse of his trust. The county attorney of the county 13 where the trust is violated, the commissioner, or a private 14 citizen may bring appropriate judicial proceedings on behalf 15 of the people. Any-moneys Money collected in such-actions 16 shall an action must be paid to the general fund of the 17 aggrieved agency.

18 (3) The-following-sections-set This part sets forth:

(a) various rules of conduct, the transgression of any
 of which is7-as-such7 a violation of fiduciary duty7; and
 (b) various ethical principles, the transgression of
 any of which is not7-as-such7 a violation of fiduciary
 duty."

Section 3. Section 2-2-104, MCA, is amended to read:
 "2-2-104. Rules of conduct for all public officers,"

-3-

-4-

legislators, and employees. (1) Proof of commission of any
 an act enumerated in this section is proof that the actor
 has breached his <u>a</u> fiduciary duty. A public officer,
 legislator, or employee may not:

5 (a) disclose or use confidential information acquired 6 in the course of his official duties in order to further 7 substantially his the individual's personal economic 8 interests; or

9 (b) accept a gift of substantial-value more than \$50 or
10 a substantial economic benefit tantamount to a gift:

(i) which that would tend improperly to influence a
 reasonable person in his that position to depart from the
 faithful and impartial discharge of his public duties; or

(ii) which-he that the individual knows or which that a
reasonable person in his that position should know under the
circumstances is primarily for the purpose of rewarding him
the individual for official action he-has taken.

(2) An economic benefit tantamount to a gift includes 18 without limitation a loan at a rate of interest 19 substantially lower than the commercial rate then currently 20 prevalent for similar loans and compensation received for 21 private services rendered at a rate substantially exceeding 22 the fair market value of such the services. Campaign 23 contributions reported as required by statute are not gifts 24 25 or economic benefits tantamount to gifts.

(3) A public officer or employee may not, within 2 1 2 years following the termination of employment, represent a private interest before the agency that employed the former 3 officer or employee on matters in which the former officer 4 5 or employee was personally and substantially involved during public employment." 6 7 Section 4. Section 2-2-105, MCA, is amended to read: *2-2-105. Ethical principles for public officers and 8 9 employees. (1) The principles in this section are intended 10 as guides to conduct and do not constitute violations as

11 such of the public trust of office or employment in state or 12 local government.

(2) A public officer or employee should not acquire an
interest in any business or undertaking which—he that the
<u>individual</u> has reason to believe may be directly and
substantially affected to its economic benefit by official
action to be taken by his the individual's agency.

18 (3) A Subject to 2-2-104(3), a public officer or 19 employee should not, within the months following the 20 voluntary termination of his the individual's office or 21 employment, obtain employment in which he the individual will take direct advantage, unavailable to others, of 22 23 matters with which he the individual was directly involved during his the individual's term or employment. These 24 25 matters are rules, other than rules of general application,

-5-

LC 0471/01

-6-

which--he that the individual actively helped to formulate
 and applications, claims, or contested cases in the
 consideration of which he the individual was an active
 participant.

5 (4) A public officer or employee should not perform an 6 official act directly and substantially affecting a business 7 or other undertaking to its economic detriment when he the 8 <u>individual</u> has a substantial financial interest in a 9 competing firm or undertaking.

10 (5) A public officer or employee who violates the 11 provisions of subsection (2) or (4) may be reprimanded or 12 suspended."

13 Section 5. Section 2-2-121, MCA, is amended to read:
14 "2-2-121. Rules of conduct for state officers and state
15 employees. (1) Proof of commission of any <u>an</u> act enumerated
16 in this section is proof that the actor has breached his <u>a</u>
17 fiduciary duty.

18 (2) A state officer or a state employee may not:

19 (a) use state time, facilities, or equipment for his
20 the individual's private business purposes;

(b) engage in a substantial financial transaction for
his the individual's private business purposes with a person
whom he the individual inspects or supervises in the course
of his official duties;

25 (c) assist any a person for a fee or other compensation

in obtaining a contract, claim, license, or other economic
 benefit from his the individual's agency;

3 (d) assist any <u>a</u> person for a contingent fee in
4 obtaining a contract, claim, license, or other economic
5 benefit from any a state agency;

6 (e) perform an official act directly and substantially 7 affecting to its economic benefit a business or other 8 undertaking in which he <u>the individual</u> either has a 9 substantial financial interest or is engaged as counsel, 10 consultant, representative, or agent; or

(f) solicit or accept employment, or engage in negotiations or meetings to consider employment, with a person whom he <u>the individual</u> regulates in the course of his official duties without first giving written notification to his <u>the individual's supervisor and department director.</u>

16 (3) A department head or a member of a guasi-judicial 17 or rulemaking board may perform an official act 18 notwithstanding subsection (2)(e) if his participation is 19 necessary to the administration of a statute and if he the 20 <u>individual</u> complies with the voluntary disclosure procedures 21 under 2-2-131.

22 (4) Subsection (2)(d) does not apply to a member of a
23 board, commission, council, or committee unless he <u>the</u>
24 <u>member</u> is also a full-time state employee."

25 Section 6. Section 2-2-125, MCA, is amended to read:

-7-

-8-

LC 0471/01

*2-2-125. Rules of conduct for local government 1 officers and employees. (1) Proof of commission of any an 2 act enumerated in this section is proof that the actor has 3 breached his a fiduciary duty. 4

(2) An officer or employee of local government may not: 5 (a) engage in a substantial financial transaction for 6 his the individual's private business purposes with a person 7 whom he the individual inspects or supervises in the course 8 of his official duties; or 9

(b) perform an official act directly and substantially 10 affecting to its economic benefit a business or other 11 undertaking in which he the individual either has a 12 substantial financial interest or is engaged as counsel, 13 consultant, representative, or agent. 14

(3) A member of the governing body of a local 15 government may perform an official act notwithstanding this 16 section when his participation is necessary to obtain a 17 quorum or otherwise enable the body to act, if he the 18 individual complies with the voluntary disclosure procedures 19 under 2-2-131." 20

Section 7. Section 2-2-131, MCA, is amended to read: 21 "2-2-131. Voluntary Conflict disclosure. A public 22 officer or employee may shall, prior to acting in a manner 23 which that may impinge on his a fiduciary duty, disclose the 24 nature of his the individual's private interest which that 25

creates the conflict. He A public officer or employee shall 1 2 make the disclosure in writing to the secretary-of-state 3 commissioner, listing the amount of his the individual's financial interest, if any, the purpose and duration of his 4 services rendered, if any, and the compensation received for 5 6 the services or such other information as is necessary to 7 describe his the interest. If he the officer or employee then performs the official act involved, he the individual 8 shall state for the record the fact and summary nature of 9 the interest disclosed at the time of performing the act." 10 Section 8. Section 2-2-132, MCA, is amended to read: 11 12 *2-2-132. Powers of the secretary-of-state commissioner 13 -- investigation -- hearing. (1) The secretary--of--state 14 commissioner may: 15 (1)(a) issue advisory opinions with such deletions as 16 are necessary to protect the identity of the requesting 17 party or the party about whom the opinion is written; 18 $\frac{12}{(b)}$ keep and permit reasonable public access to 19 voluntary disclosure statements; 20 (3)(c) make rules for the conduct of his affairs under 21 this part; 22 (d) conduct educational programs and publish a 23 practical guide to assist public officers and employees in 24 understanding the ethical principles and conflict of 25

interest disclosure requirements of this part.

-9-

-10-

1 (2) Upon the filing of a complaint alleging a violation of 2-2-104 or 2-2-121, the commissioner shall investigate 2 the complaint. If the commissioner determines that there are 3 grounds for the complaint, the commissioner may refer the 4 matter to the county attorney having jurisdiction of the 5 matter or may conduct a contested case hearing. If the 6 7 commissioner determines that a violation of 2-2-104 or 2-2-121 has occurred, the commissioner may issue a public 8 9 reprimand or impose a civil penalty not to exceed \$500 on 10 the violator. Civil penalties collected under this 11 subsection must be deposited in the general fund."

Section 9. Section 2-2-201, MCA, is amended to read: 12 "2-2-201. Public officers, employees, 13 and former 14 employees not to have interest in contracts. Members of the 15 legislature, or state, county, city, town, or township 16 officers or any--deputy-or-employee-thereof-must employees may not be interested in any a contract made by them in 17 their official capacity or by any body, agency, or board of 18 19 which they are members or employees. A Subject to 20 2-2-104(3), a former employee may not, within 6 months 21 following the termination of his employment, contract or be 22 employed by an employer who contracts with the state or any 23 of its subdivisions involving matters with which he the employee was directly involved during his public employment. 24 25 In this section the term:

1 (1) "be interested in" does not include holding a
2 minority interest in a corporation;

3 (2) "contract" does not include:

4 (a) contracts awarded to the lowest responsible bidder
5 or proposer based on competitive bidding procedures;

6 (b) merchandise sold to the highest bidder at public7 auctions;

8 (c) investments or deposits in financial institutions
9 which that are in the business of loaning or receiving
10 money;

11 (d) a contract with an interested party if, because of 12 geographic restrictions, a local government could not otherwise reasonably afford itself of the subject of the 13 contract. It shall--be is presumed that a local government 14 15 could not otherwise reasonably afford itself of the subject 16 of a contract if the additional cost to the local government 17 is greater than 10% of a contract with an interested party or if the contract is for services that must be performed 18 19 within a limited time period and no other contractor can 20 provide those services within that time period.

(3) "former employee" does not include a person whose
employment with the state was involuntarily terminated due
to a reduction in force or other involuntary termination not
involving violation of the provisions of this chapter."

Section 10. Section 5-7-103, MCA, is amended to read:

25

-11-

-12-

"5-7-103. Licenses -- fees -- eligibility. (1) (a) Any 1 Except as provided in subsection (1)(b), an adult of good 2 moral character who is otherwise qualified under this 3 chapter may be licensed as a lobbyist. The commissioner 4 shall provide a license application form. The application 5 form may be obtained in the office of the commissioner and 6 filed therein in the office. Upon approval of the 7 application and receipt of the license fee of \$10 by the B commissioner, a license shall must be issued which that 9 entitles the licensee to practice lobbying on behalf of one 10 or more enumerated principals. Each license shall-expire 11 expires on December 31 of each even-numbered year or may be 12 terminated at the request of the lobbyist. 13

(b) A state officer, as defined in 2-2-102, may not
within 2 years of leaving office be licensed as a lobbyist.
(2) (a) Except as provided in subsection (2)(b), an
application may not be disapproved without affording the
applicant a hearing. The hearing must be held and the
decision entered within 10 days of the date of the filing of
the application.

(b) An application may not be approved if a principal
has failed to file reports required under 5-7-208.

(3) The fines and license fees collected under this
chapter shall must be deposited in the state treasury."

25 Section 11. Section 5-7-213, MCA, is amended to read:

1 *5-7-213. Disclosure by elected public officials. 2 (1) (a) Prior to December 15 of each even-numbered year, з. each elected public official or official-elect [other than a 4 legislator] shall file with the commissioner a business 5 disclosure statement on a form provided by the commissioner under penalty for false swearing, as provided in 45-7-202. 6 The statement shall must provide the following information: 7 8 (i) the name, address, and type of business of such individual the public official or official-elect and each 9 member of such--individual's the public official's or 10 official-elect's immediate family; and 11 12 (ii) the financial data required by subsection (3). 13 (b) For this---purpose purposes of this section, "immediate family" includes means the individual's spouse 14 15 and minor children only. 16 (2) No---such---individual A public official or 17 official-elect [other than a legislator] may not assume or continue to exercise the powers and duties of the office to 18 19 which that individual has been elected or appointed until 20 such the statement has been filed. 21 (3) The commissioner may by rule prescribe the 22 financial data required to be reported. The financial data 23 must enable the commissioner to advise a public official [other than a legislator] concerning a conflict of interest. 24 25 Financial data required to be reported must include:

-13-

-14-

1	(a) the name and address of, nature of association	1	
2	with, share of equity in, and amount of income, if greater	2	fo
3	than \$1,000, from each business with which the official is	3	
4	associated;	4	di
5	(b) the identity of all securities and other	5	re
6	investments with a fair market value greater than \$1,000;	6	
7	(c) the names and addresses of each creditor to whom	7	
8	more than \$1,000 is owed, other than a mortgage on a primary	8	an
9	residence, and the original amount, amount outstanding,	9	jo
10	terms of repayment, and general nature of security pledged	10	co
11	for repayment of the underlying obligation;	11	
12	(d) the name, address, source, and value of any	12	jo
13	reimbursement for expenses aggregating more than \$100 in a	13	
14 .	calendar year if the source of reimbursement is a registered	14	of
15	lobbyist;	15	
16	(e) the name and address of the donor and the fair	16	th
17	market value of any gifts aggregating more than \$50 in the	17	11
18	calendar year if the donor is a registered lobbyist;	18	st
19	(f) the description and amount of assessed value of all	19	
20	real property in this state in which a financial interest is	20	th
21	held and that has an assessed value of more than \$1,000 and	21	ne
22	the name of the purchaser of any real property transferred	22	
23	during the reporting period;	23	as
24	(g) the name and address of the source and the fair	24	
25	market value of any honoraria aggregating more than \$50; and		

(h) the name and address of any creditor who has rgiven a debt of over \$1,000 and the amount forgiven. (3)(4) The commissioner shall make such business sclosure statements available to any individual upon quest." Section 12. Section 5-11-203, MCA, is amended to read: *5-11-203. Distribution of senate and house journals d session laws. (1) Immediately after the senate and house urnals and the session laws are bound, the legislative uncil shall distribute them. (2) The council shall distribute the house and senate wrnals as follows: (a) to each county clerk, one copy of each for the use the county; (b) to the Montana state library, 20 copies of each for e use of the library and distribution to depository braries, of which two copies will be deposited with the ate historical library for security purposes;

LC 0471/01

(c) to the state law librarian, two copies of each for
 the use of the library and such additional copies as may be
 necessary for the purposes of exchange;

22 (d) to the library of congress and each public officer
23 as defined in 2-2-102, two copies of each; and

24 (e) to each member of the legislature, the secretary of25 the senate, and the chief clerk of the house of

-16-

representatives from the session at which the journals were
 adopted, one copy of each.

3 (3) The council shall distribute the session laws as4 follows:

5 (a) to each cabinet level department of the executive 6 branch of the United States, one copy each; to any agency, 7 commission, conference, or corporation established by the 8 United States government or any other subdivision thereof 9 upon request and approval by the legislative council, one 10 copy;

11 (b) to the library of congress, eight copies;

12 (c) to the state library, two copies;

13 (d) to the state historical library, two copies;

(e) to the state law librarian, four copies for the use
of the library and such additional copies as may be required
for exchange with libraries and institutions maintained by
other states and territories and public libraries;

18 (f) to the library of each custodial institution, one 19 copy;

(g) to each Montana member of congress, each United
States district judge in Montana, each of the judges of the
state supreme and district courts, and each of the state
officers as defined in 2-2-102(8), one copy;

24 (h) to any agency, board, commission, or office of the25 state other than a state officer and to any other

subdivision of the state upon request and approval by the
 legislative council, one copy;

3 (i) to each member of the legislature, the secretary of 4 the senate, and the chief clerk of the house of 5 representatives from the session at which the laws were 6 adopted, one copy;

7 (j) to each of the community college districts of the
8 state, as defined in 20-15-101, and each unit of the Montana
9 university system, one copy;

10 (k) to each county clerk, three copies for the use of 11 the county; and

12 (1) to each county attorney and to each clerk of a13 district court, one copy."

14 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 13. Coordination instruction. If 15 [this act] and _____Bill No.___ [LC 470] are both passed and 16 approved, the bracketed language inserted in 5-7-213 by 17 [this act] is void. If _____Bill No.___ [LC 470] is not passed 18 and approved, the code commissioner shall replace the 19 brackets with commas.

-End-

-17-

-18-

STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for HB0227, as introduced.

<u>DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION</u>: An act generally revising the disclosure of conflict of interest and financial reporting requirements for public officials.

ASSUMPTIONS: Secretary of State's Office

1. Functions transferred to the Commissioner of Political Practices are not currently being performed by the Secretary of State's Office due to a district court ruling specifically prohibiting the Secretary of State from administering the ethics laws.

2. No funds are currently appropriated or expended by the Secretary of State's Office in this regard.

Commissioner of Political Practices

- 3. An additional 3.00 FTE will be required to meet the ethics enforcement workload created under the bill. These FTE are estimated to include: grade 14 executive assistant, grade 12 administrative assistant, and a grade 10 secretary.
- 4. An outreach educational function will require printing, travel, and development expenses.
- 5. Administrative rulemaking will be necessary with attendant expenses for filing fees, rule hearings, transcripts, legal services, and printing.
- 6. New financial disclosure forms for public officials will require development and printing expenses.
- 7. Remodeling of office space in the current office will require one-time expenses in FY94 to accomodate additional staff.
- 8. Office furniture and equipment for the additional staff will be purchased in FY94.
- 9. The commissioner may impose civil penalties not to exceed \$500 for each violator under this bill. The impact on revenue is not subject to reasonable estimate.

FISCAL IMPACT: Commissioner of Political Practices:

	·	FY94	·		FY95	
	Current Law	Proposed Law	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Current Law</u>	Proposed Law	<u>Difference</u>
Expenditures:						
FTE	3.25	6.25	3.00	3.25	6.25	3.00
Personal Services	97 , 697	178,897	81,200	98,021	179,221	81,200
Operating Costs	31,315	52,815	21,500	29,135	40,885	11,750
Equipment	1,525	13,040	11,515	1,564	1,564	0
Debt Service	232	232	0	0	0	0
Total	130,769	244,984	114,215	128,720	221,670	92,950
Funding:						
General Fund	130,769	244,984	114,215	128,720	221,670	92,950

LONG-RANGE BFFECTS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION: The two-year restrictions on post-termination employment options and lobbying activities may impact recruitment and retention of public officers and employees. The effect and fiscal impact is not subject to reasonable estimation.

.25-92 DATE

DAVE LEWIS, BUDGET DIRECTOR DA Office of Budget and Program Planning

HOWARD TOOLE, PRIMARY SPONSOR DATE

Fiscal Note for HB0227, as introduced HR 227

STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for HB0227, second reading.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION: An act generally revising the disclosure of conflict of interest and financial reporting requirements for public officials.

ASSUMPTIONS: Secretary of State's Office

1. Functions transferred to the Commissioner of Political Practices are not currently being performed by the Secretary of State's Office due to a district court ruling specifically prohibiting the Secretary of State from administering the ethics laws.

2. No funds are currently appropriated or expended by the Secretary of State's Office in this regard.

Commissioner of Political Practices

- 3. An additional 3.00 FTE will be required to meet the ethics enforcement workload created under the bill. These FTE are estimated to include: grade 14 executive assistant, grade 12 administrative assistant, and a grade 10 secretary.
- 4. Preparation and publishing of an interpretive guide covering ethics and conflict of interest requirements will require printing and development expenses. Required investigations may involve some travel and legal expenses.
- 5. Administrative rulemaking will be necessary with attendant expenses for filing fees, rule hearings, transcripts, legal services, and printing.
- 6. New financial disclosure forms for public officials will require development and printing expenses.
- 7. Remodeling of office space in the current office will require one-time expenses in FY94 to accomodate additional staff.
- 8. Office furniture and equipment for the additional staff will be purchased in FY94.
- 9. The commissioner may impose civil penalties not to exceed \$500 for each violator under this bill. The impact on revenue is not subject to reasonable estimate.

FY94		FY95			
Current Law	Proposed Law	Difference	Current Law	Proposed Law	Difference
3.25	6.25	3.00	3.25	6.25	3.00
97,697	178,897	81,200	98,021	179,221	81,200
31,315	47,815	16,500	29,135	38,885	9,750
1,525	13,040	11,515	1,564	1,564	. 0
232	232	0	0	0	0
130,769	239,984	109,215	128,720	219,670	90,950
				-	•
130,769	239,984	109,215	128,720	219,670	90,950
	3.25 97,697 31,315 1,525 232 130,769	Current LawProposed Law3.256.2597,697178,89731,31547,8151,52513,040	Current LawProposed LawDifference3.256.253.0097,697178,89781,20031,31547,81516,5001,52513,04011,5152322320130,769239,984109,215	Current LawProposed LawDifferenceCurrent Law3.256.253.003.2597,697178,89781,20098,02131,31547,81516,50029,1351,52513,04011,5151,56423223200130,769239,984109,215128,720	Current LawProposed LawDifferenceCurrent LawProposed Law3.256.253.003.256.2597,697178,89781,20098,021179,22131,31547,81516,50029,13538,8851,52513,04011,5151,5641,564232232000130,769239,984109,215128,720219,670

FISCAL IMPACT: Commissioner of Political Practices:

LONG-RANGE EFFECTS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION: The two-year restrictions on post-termination employment options and lobbying activities may impact recruitment and retention of public officers and employees. The effect and fiscal impact is not subject to reasonable/estimation.

DAVE LEWIS, BUDGET DIRECTOR DATE Office of Budget and Program Planning

HOWARD TOOLE, PRIMARY SPONSOR

Fiscal Note for <u>HB0227, second reading</u>

fB 227 - ≯2

53rd Legislature

20

.4

HB 0227/02

6

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 227
2	INTRODUCED BY TOOLE, WANZENRIED, SWANSON, KADAS, HARPER,
3	DOHERTY, TUNBY, BARNHART, HARDING, ELLIOTT
4	
5	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING THE
6	DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND FINANCIAL REPORTING
7	REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLICOFFICIALS STATE OFFICERS AND
8	LEGISLATORS; REQUIRING DISCLOSURE OF A CONFLICT OF INTEREST;
9	TRANSFERRING AUTHORITY FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF ETHICS LAWS
10	FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL
11	PRACTICES; AUTHORIBINGTHECOMMISSIONEROFPOLITICAL
12	Practices-to-conduct-educational-programs-and-issue-abvisory
13	OPINIONS; REQUIRING THAT FINANCIAL REPORTING BE EXPANDED IN
14	CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE COMMISSIONER OF
15	POLITICAL PRACTICES TO DETERMINE WHETHER A CONFLICT OF
16	INTEREST EXISTS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 2-2-102, 2-2-103,
17	2-2-104,2-2-105, 2-2-121, 2-2-125, 2-2-131, 2-2-132,
18	2-2-2017-5-7-1037 5-7-213, AND 5-11-203, MCA."
19	

STATEMENT OF INTENT

A statement of intent is required for this bill because fsection--11; 5-7-213 grants rulemaking authority to the commissioner of political practices to require the disclosure of financial information. The commissioner may require the disclosure of financial information not listed

vtana Leoisiative Counci

1 in fsection--11; 5-7-213 only if the commissioner decides 2 that the information is necessary for determining if an 3 elected official has a conflict of interest.

- 4 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
 - (Refer to Introduced Bill)

7 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert:

8 Section 1. Section 2-2-102, MCA, is amended to read:

9 =2-2-102. Definitions. As used in this part, the 10 following definitions apply:

11 (1) "Business" includes a corporation, partnership, 12 sole proprietorship, trust or foundation, or any other 13 individual or organization carrying on a business, whether 14 or not operated for profit.

15 (2) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of political
 16 practices as established in 2-15-411.

17 (2)(3) "Compensation" means any money, <u>a</u> thing of 18 value, or <u>an</u> economic benefit conferred on or received by 19 any person in return for services rendered or to be rendered 20 by himself the person or another.

21 (3) (4) "Employee" means any a temporary or permanent 22 employee of the state or any a subdivision thereof of the 23 <u>state</u> or a member of the judiciary, including a member of a 24 board, commission, or committee except a legislator and an 25 employee under contract to the state.

-2-

HB 227 SECOND READING

HB 0227/02

(4)(5) "Financial interest" means an interest held by 1 an individual7--his or by the individual's spouser or minor 2 children which that is: 3 (a) an ownership interest in a business; 4 (b) a creditor interest in an insolvent business; 5 (c) an employment or prospective employment for which 6 negotiations have begun; 7 (d) an ownership interest in real or personal property; В (e) a loan or other debtor interest; or 9 (f) a directorship or officership in a business. 10 +5+(6) "Official act" or "official action" means a 11 vote, decision, recommendation, approval, disapproval, or 12 other action, including inaction, which that involves the 13 use of discretionary authority. 14

15 (6)(7) "Public officer" includes any <u>a</u> state officer
16 except--a--iegislator--or--member-of-the-judiciary or any <u>an</u>
17 elected officer of any <u>a</u> subdivision of the state. <u>The term</u>
18 does not include a legislator or a member of the judiciary.
19 (7)(8) "State agency" includes the state; the
20 legislature and its committees; all executive departments,

boards, commissions, committees, bureaus, and offices; the
university system; and all independent commissions and other
establishments of the state government except the courts.

24 (8)(9) "State officer" includes all elected officers
 25 and directors of the executive branch of state government as

-3-

HB 227

HB 0227/02

1 defined in 2-15-102."

2 Section 2. Section 2-2-103, MCA, is amended to read:

3 -2-2-103. Public trust. (1) The holding of public 4 office or employment is a public trust, created by the 5 confidence which that the electorate reposes in the 6 integrity of public officers, legislators, and employees. A 7 public officer, legislator, or employee shall carry out his 8 the individual's duties for the benefit of the people of the 9 state.

(2) A public officer, legislator, or employee whose 10 11 conduct departs from his the individual's fiduciary duty is liable to the people of the state as a trustee of property, 12 and is liable to a beneficiary under 72-34-1057. and-shall 13 14 suffer-such-other-liabilities-as The individual is subject 15 to the liability that a private fiduciary would suffer for 16 an abuse of his trust. The county attorney of the county 17 where the trust is violated or the commissioner may bring 18 appropriate judicial proceedings on behalf of the people. 19 Any--moneys Money collected in such-actions-shall an action 20 must be paid to the general fund of the aggrieved agency.

21 (3) The-following-sections-set This part sets forth:

22 (a) various rules of conduct, the transgression of any 23 of which is₇-as-such₇ a violation of fiduciary duty₇; and 24 (b) various ethical principles, the transgression of 25 any of which is not₇--as--such₇ a violation of fiduciary

-4-

.

1	duty."	1	negotiations or meetings to consider employment, with a
2	Section 3. Section 2-2-121, MCA, is amended to read:	2	person whom he the individual regulates in the course of his
3	"2-2-121. Rules of conduct for state officers and state	3	official duties without first giving written notification to
4	employees. (1) Proof of commission of any an act enumerated	4	his the individual's supervisor and department director.
5	in this section is proof that the actor has breached h is a	5	(3) A state officer may not, within 2 years following
6	fiduciary duty.	6	termination of employment, represent, whether as an attorney
7	(2) A state officer or a state employee may not:	7	or other advocate, a private interest before the agency that
8	(a) use state time, facilities, or equipment for his	8	employed the former official on particular cases or matters
9	the individual's private business purposes;	9	in which the former official was personally and
10	(b) engage in a substantial financial transaction for	10	substantially involved during state employment.
11	his the individual's private business purposes with a person	11	(4) A department head or a member of a quasi-judicial
12	whom he the individual inspects or supervises in the course	12	or rulemaking board may perform an official act
13	of his official duties;	13	notwithstanding subsection (2)(e) if his participation is
14	(c) assist any a person for a fee or other compensation	14	necessary to the administration of a statute and if he the
15	in obtaining a contract, claim, license, or other economic	15	individual complies with the voluntary disclosure procedures
16	benefit from h is the individual's agency;	16	under 2-2-131.
17	(d) assist any <u>a</u> person for a contingent fee in	17	(4)<u>(5)</u> Subsection (2)(d) does not apply to a member of
18	obtaining a contract, claim, license, or other economic	18	a board, commission, council, or committee unless he the
19	benefit from any a state agency;	19	<u>member</u> is also a full-time state employee.
20	(e) perform an official act directly and substantially	20	[6] A state officer or employee who violates the
21	affecting to its economic benefit a business or other	21	provisions of subsection (2) may be reprimanded or
22	undertaking in which he <u>the individual</u> either has a	22	suspended."
23	substantial financial interest or is engaged as counsel,	23	Section 4. Section 2-2-131, MCA, is amended to read:
24	consultant, representative, or agent; or	24	"2-2-131. Voluntary disclosure. A public officer or
25	(f) solicit or accept employment, or engage in	25	employee may, prior to acting in a manner which that may
	-		
	-5- HB 227		-6- HB 227

1 impinge on his a fiduciary duty, disclose the nature of his the private interest which that creates the conflict. He The 2 public officer or employee shall make the disclosure in 3 writing to the secretary-of-state commissioner, listing the 4 5 amount of his the financial interest, if any, the purpose and duration of his services rendered, if any, and the 6 7 compensation received for the services or such other 8 information as is necessary to describe his the interest. If he the public officer or employee then performs the official 9 10 act involved, he the individual shall state for the record the fact and summary nature of the interest disclosed at the 11 12 time of performing the act."

13 Section 5. Section 2-2-132, MCA, is amended to read: 14 "2-2-132. Powers of the secretary-of-state commissioner 15 <u>-- investigation -- hearing. (1)</u> The secretary-of-state 16 commissioner may:

17 (1)(a) issue advisory opinions with such deletions as
18 are necessary to protect the identity of the requesting
19 party or the party about whom the opinion is written;

20 (2)(b) keep and permit reasonable public access to 21 voluntary disclosure statements;

22 (++)(c) make rules for the conduct of his affairs under 23 this part;

24 (d) publish a practical guide to assist public
 25 officers, state officials, and employees in understanding

-7-

HB 227

1	the ethical principles and conflict of interest disclosure
2	requirements of this part.
3	(2) Upon the filing of a complaint alleging a violation
4	of 2-2-104 or 2-2-121, the commissioner shall investigate
5.	the complaint. If the commissioner determines that there are
6	grounds for the complaint, the commissioner may refer the
7	matter to the county attorney having jurisdiction of the
8	matter or may conduct a contested case hearing. If the
9	commissioner determines that a violation of 2-2-104 or
10	2-2-121 has occurred, the commissioner may issue a public
11	reprimand or impose a civil penalty not to exceed \$500 on
12	the violator. Civil penalties collected under this
13	subsection must be deposited in the general fund."
	subsection must be deposited in the general rund.
14	Section 6. Section 5-7-213, MCA, is amended to read:
14	Section 6. Section 5-7-213, MCA, is amended to read:
14 15	Section 6. Section 5-7-213, MCA, is amended to read: *5-7-213. Disclosure by elected <u>public</u> officials. (1)
14 15 16	Section 6. Section 5-7-213, MCA, is amended to read: *5-7-213. Disclosure by elected <u>public</u> officials. (1) Prior to December 15 of each even-numbered year, each
14 15 16 17	Section 6. Section 5-7-213, MCA, is amended to read: "5-7-213. Disclosure by elected public officials. (1) Prior to December 15 of each even-numbered year, each elected public official or official-elect shall file with
14 15 16 17 18	Section 6. Section 5-7-213, MCA, is amended to read: "5-7-213. Disclosure by elected <u>public</u> officials. (1) Prior to December 15 of each even-numbered year, each elected <u>public</u> official or official-elect shall file with the commissioner a business disclosure statement on a form
14 15 16 17 18 19	Section 6. Section 5-7-213, MCA, is amended to read: "5-7-213. Disclosure by elected <u>public</u> officials. (1) Prior to December 15 of each even-numbered year, each elected <u>public</u> official or official-elect shall file with the commissioner a business disclosure statement on a form provided by the commissioner <u>under penalty for false</u>
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Section 6. Section 5-7-213, MCA, is amended to read: "5-7-213. Disclosure by elected <u>public</u> officials. (1) Prior to December 15 of each even-numbered year, each elected <u>public</u> official or official-elect shall file with the commissioner a business disclosure statement on a form provided by the commissioner <u>under penalty for false</u> <u>swearing</u> , as provided in 45-7-202. The statement shall <u>must</u>
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Section 6. Section 5-7-213, MCA, is amended to read: "5-7-213. Disclosure by elected public officials. (1) Prior to December 15 of each even-numbered year, each elected public official or official-elect shall file with the commissioner a business disclosure statement on a form provided by the commissioner <u>under penalty for false</u> <u>swearing, as provided in 45-7-202</u> . The statement shall <u>must</u> provide the following information: the name, address, and
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Section 6. Section 5-7-213, MCA, is amended to read: "5-7-213. Disclosure by elected <u>public</u> officials. (1) Prior to December 15 of each even-numbered year, each elected <u>public</u> official or official-elect shall file with the commissioner a business disclosure statement on a form provided by the commissioner <u>under penalty for false</u> <u>swearing</u> , as provided in 45-7-202. The statement shall <u>must</u> provide the following information: the name, address, and type of business of such the individual and each member of

-8-

1 (2) No---such---individual <u>A public official or</u> 2 <u>official-elect</u> may <u>not</u> assume or continue to exercise the 3 powers and duties of the office to which that individual has 4 been elected or appointed until such the statement has been 5 filed.

6 (3) The commissioner shall require a public official or official-elect to report additional financial data, which 7 the commissioner may prescribe by rule, if the commissioner R 9 has reasonable grounds to believe that there is a violation 10 of a provision of 2-2-103, 2-2-104, 2-2-121, 2-2-125, or 11 2-2-131. The financial data required may include but is not limited to information on income, securities and other 12 13 investments, debts and creditors, and gifts or favors.

14 (4) The commissioner shall make such business
15 disclosure statements available to any individual upon
16 request."

17 Section 7. Section 5-11-203, MCA, is amended to read: 18 "5-11-203. Distribution of senate and house journals 19 and session laws. (1) Immediately after the senate and house 20 journals and the session laws are bound, the legislative 21 council shall distribute them.

(2) The council shall distribute the house and senatejournals as follows:

24 (a) to each county clerk, one copy of each for the use25 of the county;

(b) to the Montana state library, 20 copies of each for
 the use of the library and distribution to depository
 libraries, of which two copies will be deposited with the
 state historical library for security purposes;

5 (c) to the state law librarian, two copies of each for 6 the use of the library and such additional copies as may be 7 necessary for the purposes of exchange;

8 (d) to the library of congress and each public officer
9 as defined in 2-2-102, two copies of each; and

10 (e) to each member of the legislature, the secretary of 11 the senate, and the chief clerk of the house of 12 representatives from the session at which the journals were 13 adopted, one copy of each.

14 (3) The council shall distribute the session laws as 15 follows:

16 (a) to each cabinet level department of the executive
17 branch of the United States, one copy each; to any agency,
18 commission, conference, or corporation established by the
19 United States government or any other subdivision thereof
20 upon request and approval by the legislative council, one
21 copy;

22 (b) to the library of congress, eight copies;

- 23 (c) to the state library, two copies;
- 24 (d) to the state historical library, two copies;
- 25 (e) to the state law librarian, four copies for the use

-10-

-9-

HB 227

of the library and such additional copies as may be required
 for exchange with libraries and institutions maintained by
 other states and territories and public libraries;

4 (f) to the library of each custodial institution, one
5 copy;

6 (g) to each Montana member of congress, each United
7 States district judge in Montana, each of the judges of the
8 state supreme and district courts, and each of the state
9 officers as defined in 2-2-102+8+, one copy;

10 (h) to any agency, board, commission, or office of the
11 state other than a state officer and to any other
12 subdivision of the state upon request and approval by the
13 legislative council, one copy;

14 (i) to each member of the legislature, the secretary of
15 the senate, and the chief clerk of the house of
16 representatives from the session at which the laws were
17 adopted, one copy;

(j) to each of the community college districts of the
state, as defined in 20-15-101, and each unit of the Montana
university system, one copy;

21 (k) to each county clerk, three copies for the use of 22 the county; and

23 (1) to each county attorney and to each clerk of a24 district court, one copy."

-End-

-11-

4

6

8

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 227
2	INTRODUCED BY TOOLE, WANZENRIED, SWANSON, KADAS, HARPER,
3	DOHERTY, TUNBY, BARNHART, HARDING, ELLIOTT
4	
5	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING THE
6	DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND FINANCIAL REPORTING
7	REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLICOPPICIALS STATE OFFICERS AND
8	LEGISLATORS; REQUIRING DISCLOSURE OF A CONFLICT OF INTEREST;
9	TRANSFERRING AUTHORITY FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF ETHICS LAWS
10	FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL
11	PRACTICES; AUTHORISINGTHECOMMISSIONEROPPOLITICAL
12	Practices-to-conduct-ebucational-programs-and-issue-advisory
13	OPINIONS 7 REQUIRING THAT FINANCIAL REPORTING BE EXPANDED <u>IN</u>
14	CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE COMMISSIONER OF
15	POLITICAL PRACTICES TO DETERMINE WHETHER A CONFLICT OF
16	INTEREST EXISTS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 2-2-102, 2-2-103,
17	2-2-10472-2-1057 2-2-121, 2-2-1257 2-2-131, 2-2-132,
18	2-2-2017-5-7-1037 5-7-213, AND 5-11-203, MCA."

19 20

STATEMENT OF INTENT

A statement of intent is required for this bill because fsection--+++ 5-7-213 grants rulemaking authority to the commissioner of political practices to require the disclosure of financial information. The commissioner may require the disclosure of financial information not listed



in fsection--11; 5-7-213 only if the commissioner decides
 that the information is necessary for determining if an
 elected official has a conflict of interest.

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

(Refer to Introduced Bill)

7 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 2-2-102, MCA, is amended to read:

9 "2-2-102. Definitions. As used in this part, the 10 following definitions apply:

11 (1) "Business" includes a corporation, partnership, 12 sole proprietorship, trust or foundation, or any other 13 individual or organization carrying on a business, whether 14 or not operated for profit.

15 (2) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of political
 16 practices as established in 2-15-411.

17 (2)(3) "Compensation" means any money, <u>a</u> thing of 18 value, or <u>an</u> economic benefit conferred on or received by 19 any person in return for services rendered or to be rendered 20 by himself the person or another.

21 (3)(4) "Employee" means any a temporary or permanent 22 employee of the state or any a subdivision thereof of the 23 state or a member of the judiciary, including a member of a 24 board, commission, or committee except a legislator and an 25 employee under contract to the state.

-2-

(4)(5) "Financial interest" means an interest held by 1 2 an individualy--his or by the individual's spouse, or minor 3 children which that is:

4 (a) an ownership interest in a business:

5 (b) a creditor interest in an insolvent business;

6 (c) an employment or prospective employment for which 7 negotiations have begun;

8 (d) an ownership interest in real or personal property;

9 (e) a loan or other debtor interest; or

10 (f) a directorship or officership in a business.

11 {5}(6) "Official act" or "official action" means a 12 vote, decision, recommendation, approval, disapproval, or other action, including inaction, which that involves the 13 use of discretionary authority. 14

15 (6)(7) "Public officer" includes any a state officer 16 except--a--legislator--or--member-of-the-judiciary or any an elected officer of any a subdivision of the state. The term 17 does not include a legislator or a member of the judiciary. 18

19 +7+(8) "State agency" includes the state; the 20 legislature and its committees; all executive departments, 21 boards, commissions, committees, bureaus, and offices; the 22 university system; and all independent commissions and other establishments of the state government except the courts. 23

(9) "State officer" includes all elected officers 24 25 and directors of the executive branch of state government as 1 defined in 2-15-102."

2 Section 2. Section 2-2-103, MCA, is amended to read:

3 *2-2-103. Public trust. (1) The holding of public office or employment is a public trust, created by the Δ 5 confidence which that the electorate reposes in the integrity of public officers, legislators, and employees. A 6 7 public officer, legislator, or employee shall carry out his R the individual's duties for the benefit of the people of the g state.

10 (2) A public officer, legislator, or employee whose 11 conduct departs from his the individual's fiduciary duty is 12 liable to the people of the state as a trustee of property, 13 and is liable to a beneficiary under 72-34-1057. and shall 14 suffer-such-other-liabilities-as The individual is subject 15 to the liability that a private fiduciary would suffer for 16 an abuse of his trust. The county attorney of the county 17 where the trust is violated or the commissioner may bring 18 appropriate judicial proceedings on behalf of the people. 19 Any--moneys Money collected in such-actions-shall an action 20 must be paid to the general fund of the aggrieved agency.

21 (3) The-following-sections-set This part sets forth:

22 (a) various rules of conduct, the transgression of any of which is7-as-suchy a violation of fiduciary duty7; and 23 24 (b) various ethical principles, the transgression of 25 any of which is not -- as--such, a violation of fiduciary

-4-

-3-

HB 227

HB 0227/03

-6-

1	duty."	1	negotiations or meetings to consider employment, with a
2	Section 3. Section 2-2-121, MCA, is amended to read:	2	person whom he the individual regulates in the course of his
3	"2-2-121. Rules of conduct for state officers and state	3	official duties without first giving written notification to
4	employees. (1) Proof of commission of any an act enumerated	4	his the individual's supervisor and department director.
5	in this section is proof that the actor has breached his a	5	(3) A state officer may not, within 2 years following
6	fiduciary duty.	6	termination of employment, represent, whether as an attorney
7	(2) A state officer or a state employee may not:	7	or other advocate, a private interest before the agency that
8	(a) use state time, facilities, or equipment for his	8	employed the former official on particular cases or matters
9	the individual's private business purposes;	9	in which the former official was personally and
10	(b) engage in a substantial financial transaction for	10	substantially involved during state employment.
11	his the individual's private business purposes with a person	11	(4) A department head or a member of a quasi-judicial
12	whom he the individual inspects or supervises in the course	12	or rulemaking board may perform an official act
13	of his official duties;	13	notwithstanding subsection (2)(e) if his participation is
13	(c) assist any a person for a fee or other compensation	14	necessary to the administration of a statute and if he the
		15	individual complies with the voluntary disclosure procedures
15	in obtaining a contract, claim, license, or other economic	16	under 2-2-131.
16	benefit from his the individual's agency;	17	(4) Subsection (2)(d) does not apply to a member of
17	(d) assist any <u>a</u> person for a contingent fee in	18	a board, commission, council, or committee unless he the
18	obtaining a contract, claim, license, or other economic	19	member is also a full-time state employee.
19	benefit from any a state agency;	20	(6) A state officer-or employee who violates the
20	(e) perform an official act directly and substantially	21	provisions of subsection (2) may be reprimanded or suspended
21	affecting to its economic benefit a business or other	22	BY THE EMPLOYEE'S SUPERVISOR. A STATE OFFICIAL, OTHER THAN
22	undertaking in which he <u>the individual</u> either has a	23	AN ELECTED OFFICIAL, WHO COMMITS A VIOLATION OF SUBSECTION
23	substantial financial interest or is engaged as counsel,	24	(2) MAY BE REPRIMANDED OR SUSPENDED BY THE GOVERNOR, AN
24	consultant, representative, or agent; or	25	ELECTED STATE OFFICIAL WHO VIOLATES THE PROVISIONS OF
25	(f) solicit or accept employment, or engage in	<i>L J</i>	DESCRED STREE OFFICIAL HES VIOLATES THE PROVISIONS OF

-5-

HB 227

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

SUBSECTION (2) IS SUBJECT TO THE PUNISHMENT ALLOWED BY LAW."
 Section 4. Section 2-2-131, MCA, is amended to read:
 "2-2-131. Voluntary disclosure. A public officer or

employee may, prior to acting in a manner which that may 4 impinge on his a fiduciary duty, disclose the nature of his 5 6 the private interest which that creates the conflict. He The 7 public officer or employee shall make the disclosure in 8 writing to the secretary-of-state commissioner, listing the 9 amount of his the financial interest, if any, the purpose and duration of his services rendered, if any, and the 10 compensation received for the services or such other 11 12 information as is necessary to describe his the interest. If he the public officer or employee then performs the official 13 14 act involved, he the individual shall state for the record 15 the fact and summary nature of the interest disclosed at the 16 time of performing the act."

Section 5. Section 2-2-132, MCA, is amended to read:
 "2-2-132. Powers of the secretary-of-state commissioner
 <u>-- investigation -- hearing. (1)</u> The secretary-of-state
 commissioner may:

21 (1)(a) issue advisory opinions with such deletions as
22 are necessary to protect the identity of the requesting
23 party or the party about whom the opinion is written;

t2t(b) keep and permit reasonable public access to
 voluntary disclosure statements;

(+3)(c) make rules for the conduct of his affairs under this part; (d) publish a practical guide to assist public officers, state officials, and employees in understanding the ethical principles and conflict of interest disclosure requirements of this part. (2) Upon the filing of a complaint alleging a violation BY A STATE OFFICER of 2-2-104 or 2-2-121, the commissioner shall investigate the complaint. If the commissioner determines that there are grounds for the complaint, the commissioner may refer the matter to the county attorney having jurisdiction of the matter or may conduct a contested case hearing. If the commissioner determines that a violation BY A STATE OFFICER of 2-2-104 or 2-2-121 has occurred, the commissioner may issue a public reprimand or impose a civil penalty not to exceed \$500 on the violator. Civil penalties collected under this subsection must be deposited in the general fund." Section 6. Section 5-7-213, MCA, is amended to read: *5-7-213. Disclosure by elected public officials. (1) Prior to December 15 of each even-numbered year, each efected public official or official-elect shall file with

23 the commissioner a business disclosure statement on a form
24 provided by the commissioner <u>under penalty for false</u>
25 swearing, as provided in 45-7-202. The statement shall must

-7-

HB 227

-8-

HB 227

HB 0227/03

1

provide the following information: the name, address, and type of business of such the individual and each member of such the individual's immediate family. For this--purpose purposes of this section, "immediate family" includes means the individual's spouse and minor children only.

6 (2) No---such---individual <u>A public official or</u> 7 <u>official-elect may not assume or continue to exercise the</u> 8 powers and duties of the office to which that individual has 9 been elected or appointed until such the statement has been 10 filed.

11 (3) The-commissioner-shall-require-a-public-official-or official-elect-to-report-additional--financial--datay--which 12 13 the--commissioner-may-prescribe-by-ruley-if-the-commissioner 14 has-reasonable-grounds-to-believe-that-there-is-a--violation of--a--provision--of--2-2-1037-2-2-1047-2-2-1217-2-2-1257-or 15 16 2-2-131--The-financial-data-required-may-include-but-is--not 17 limited--to--information--on--income7--securities--and-other 18 investments7-debts-and-creditors7-and-gifts-or--favors UPON THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT IN THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER, 19 20 IF THE COMMISSIONER DETERMINES THERE ARE REASONABLE GROUNDS 21 TO BELIEVE THAT THERE HAS BEEN A VIOLATION BY A PUBLIC 22 OFFICIAL OR OFFICIAL-ELECT OF 2-2-103, 2-2-104, 2-2-121, OR 2-2-131, THE COMMISSIONER MAY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES THE 23 COMMISSIONER SHALL PRESCRIBE, REQUIRE THE PUBLIC OFFICIAL OR 24 25 OFFICIAL-ELECT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL DATA RELATED

2 IS NOT LIMITED TO INFORMATION ON INCOME, SECURITIES AND 3 OTHER INVESTMENTS, DEBTS AND CREDITORS, AND GIFTS OR FAVORS. (4) The commissioner shall 4 make such business 5 disclosure statements available to any individual upon 6 request." 7 Section 7. Section 5-11-203, MCA, is amended to read: 8 "5-11-203. Distribution of senate and house journals 9 and session laws. (1) Immediately after the senate and house 10 journals and the session laws are bound, the legislative 11 council shall distribute them. 12 (2) The council shall distribute the house and senate journals as follows: 13 14 (a) to each county clerk, one copy of each for the use of the county; 15 16 (b) to the Montana state library, 20 copies of each for

TO THE ALLEGED VIOLATION. THE FINANCIAL DATA MAY INCLUDE BUT

17 the use of the library and distribution to depository 18 libraries, of which two copies will be deposited with the 19 state historical library for security purposes;

(c) to the state law librarian, two copies of each for
the use of the library and such additional copies as may be
necessary for the purposes of exchange:

23 (d) to the library of congress and each public officer

24 as defined in 2-2-102, two copies of each; and

25 (e) to each member of the legislature, the secretary of

-10-

-9-

HB 227

HB 227

HB 0227/03

the senate, and the chief clerk of the house of
 representatives from the session at which the journals were
 adopted, one copy of each.

4 (3) The council shall distribute the session laws as 5 follows:

6 (a) to each cabinet level department of the executive
7 branch of the United States, one copy each; to any agency,
8 commission, conference, or corporation established by the
9 United States government or any other subdivision thereof
10 upon request and approval by the legislative council, one
11 copy;

12 (b) to the library of congress, eight copies;

13 (c) to the state library, two copies;

14 (d) to the state historical library, two copies;

(e) to the state law librarian, four copies for the use
of the library and such additional copies as may be required
for exchange with libraries and institutions maintained by
other states and territories and public libraries;

19 (f) to the library of each custodial institution, one 20 copy;

21 (g) to each Montana member of congress, each United 22 States district judge in Montana, each of the judges of the 23 state supreme and district courts, and each of the state 24 officers as defined in $2-2-102+\theta$, one copy;

25 (h) to any agency, board, commission, or office of the

-11-

HB 227

state other than a state officer and to any other
 subdivision of the state upon request and approval by the
 legislative council, one copy;

4 (i) to each member of the legislature, the secretary of 5 the senate, and the chief clerk of the house of 6 representatives from the session at which the laws were 7 adopted, one copy;

8 (j) to each of the community college districts of the
9 state, as defined in 20-15-101, and each unit of the Montana
10 university system, one copy;

11 (k) to each county clerk, three copies for the use of

12 the county; and

13 (1) to each county attorney and to each clerk of a

14 district court, one copy."

-End-

HB 227

-12-