

HOUSE BILL 277

Introduced by Gervais, et al.

1/19	Introduced
1/20	Referred to Appropriations
1/20	First Reading
1/26	Hearing
2/09	Tabled in Committee

1 House BILL NO. 277  
 2 INTRODUCED BY Howes, Russell, Stuebel  
 3 Raney, Squaw, Chickadee, Yellowtail  
 4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT APPROPRIATING MONEY TO  
 5 THE COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO FUND AMERICAN  
 6 INDIAN/MINORITY ACHIEVEMENT."

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 8 WHEREAS, American Indians comprise approximately 6% of  
 9 Montana's population; and

10 WHEREAS, less than 3% of American Indian students are  
 11 enrolled in the Montana University System; and

12 WHEREAS, by the year 2000, a high school diploma will  
 13 provide an opening to only 49% of the available jobs; and

14 WHEREAS, between 1993 and the year 2000, one-third of  
 15 the new jobs created will be filled by college graduates;  
 16 and

17 WHEREAS, Montana's economic future depends upon a  
 18 well-educated work force.

19  
 20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

21 NEW SECTION. Section 1. Appropriation. There is  
 22 appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of  
 23 higher education \$175,648 for the biennium ending June 30,  
 24 1995, to fund the staff and operation of the director of  
 25 American Indian/ minority achievement. The director shall:

1 (1) use the money to improve the recruitment and  
 2 retention of American Indians in higher education by:  
 3 (a) continuing the data collection and analysis begun  
 4 by the Montana tracks program;  
 5 (b) serving as a consultant to the Montana university  
 6 system campuses and vocational-technical centers to develop  
 7 plans for recruitment and retention; and  
 8 (c) serving as a liaison between the Montana university  
 9 system, tribal governments, and tribal colleges;  
 10 (2) provide a report to the 55th legislature on the  
 11 accomplishments of and data collected by the program during  
 12 the 1995 biennium.

-End-