1		House BILL NO. 209
2	INTRODUCED BY	Cobb

- 4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING A MINIMUM STANDARD DEDUCTION OF \$1,590,
- 5 OR \$3,180 FOR A JOINT RETURN OR FOR A HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD RETURN, ADJUSTED TO THE 1980
- 6 INFLATION FACTOR; AMENDING SECTIONS 15-30-122 AND 15-30-142, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN
- 7 APPLICABILITY DATE."

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

Section 1. Section 15-30-122, MCA, is amended to read:

"15-30-122. Standard deduction. (1) A standard deduction equal to 20% of adjusted gross income shall be is allowed if elected by the taxpayer on his a return. The standard deduction shall be is in lieu of all deductions allowed under 15-30-121. The minimum standard deduction is \$860, and the maximum standard deduction ehall be is \$1,500, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (2), except that in the case of a single joint return of husband and wife or in the case of a single individual who qualifies to file as a head of household on his the federal income tax return, the minimum standard deduction is \$1,720 and the maximum standard deduction shall be is \$3,000, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (2). The standard deduction shall may not be allowed to either the husband or the wife if the tax of one of the spouses is determined without regard to the standard deduction. For purposes of this section, the determination of whether an individual is married shall must be made as of the last day of the taxable tax year; provided, however, if unless one of the spouses dies during the taxable tax year, in which case the determination shall must be made as of the date of death.

(2) By November 1 of each year, the department shall multiply the maximum standard deduction for single returns by the inflation factor for that taxable tax year and round the product to the nearest \$10. The standard deduction for joint returns and qualified head of household returns shall must be twice the amount for single returns. The resulting adjusted deductions are effective for that taxable tax year and shall must be used in calculating the tax imposed in 15-30-103."

Section 2. Section 15-30-142, MCA, is amended to read:



HB 209 INTRODUCED BILL

"15-30-142. Returns and payment of tax -- penalty and interest -- refunds -- credits. (1) Every Each single individual and every each married individual not filling a joint return with his or her a spouse and having a gross income for the taxable tax year of more than \$1,000 \$1,500, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (7), and married individuals not filling separate returns and having a combined gross income for the taxable tax year of more than \$2,000 \$3,000, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (7), shall be are liable for a return to be filled on such forms and according to such rules as that the department may prescribe. The gross income amounts referred to in the preceding sentence shall must be increased by \$800, as adjusted under the provisions of 15-30-112(6), for each additional personal exemption allowance that the taxpayer is entitled to claim for himself the taxpayer and his the taxpayer's spouse under 15-30-112(3) and (4). A nonresident shall be required to file a return if his gross income for the taxable year derived from sources within Montana exceeds the amount of the exemption deduction he is entitled to claim for himself and his spouse under the provisions of 15-30-112(2), (3), and (4), based upon Montana income, as is required of Montana residents.

- (2) In accordance with instructions set forth by the department, every each taxpayer who is married and living with husband or wife and is required to file a return may, at his or her the taxpayer's option, file a joint return with husband or wife even though one of the spouses has neither gross income nor deductions. If a joint return is made, the tax shall must be computed on the aggregate taxable income and the liability with respect to the tax shall be is joint and several. If a joint return has been filed for a taxable tax year, the spouses may not file separate returns after the time for filing the return of either has expired unless the department se consents.
- (3) If any such a taxpayer is unable to make his the taxpayer's own return, the return shall must be made by a duly an authorized agent or by a guardian or other person charged with the care of the person or property of such the taxpayer.
- (4) All taxpayers, including but not limited to those subject to the provisions of 15-30-202 and 15-30-241, shall compute the amount of income tax payable and shall, at the time of filing the return required by this chapter, pay to the department any balance of income tax remaining unpaid after crediting the amount withheld, as provided by 15-30-202, and/or and any payment made by reason of an estimated tax return provided for in 15-30-241; provided, however However, the tax so computed is must be greater by \$1 than the amount withheld and/or and paid by estimated return as provided in this chapter. If the amount of tax withheld and/or and the payment of estimated tax exceeds exceed by more than \$1 the



54th Legislature

amount of income tax as computed, the taxpayer shall be is entitled to a refund of the	ie excess.
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- (5) As soon as practicable after the return is filed, the department shall examine and verify the tax.
- (6) If the amount of tax as verified is greater than the amount theretofore paid, the excess shall must be paid by the taxpayer to the department within 60 days after notice of the amount of the tax as computed, with interest added at the rate of 9% per annum a year or fraction thereof of a year on the additional tax. In such that case, there shall may not be no a penalty because of such the understatement, provided if the deficiency is paid within 60 days after the first notice of the amount is mailed to the taxpayer.
- (7) By November 1 of each year, the department shall multiply the minimum amount of gross income necessitating the filing of a return by the inflation factor for the taxable tax year. These adjusted amounts are effective for that taxable tax year, and persons having who have gross incomes less than these adjusted amounts are not required to file a return.
- (8) Individual income tax forms distributed by the department for each taxable tax year must contain instructions and tables based on the adjusted base year structure for that taxable tax year."

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Applicability. [This act] applies to tax years beginning after December 31, 1995.

18 -END-



STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Fiscal Note for HB0209, as introduced

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

An act providing a minimum standard deduction of \$1,590, or \$3,180 for a joint return or for a head of household return, adjusted to the 1980 inflation factor; and providing an applicability date.

ASSUMPTIONS:

- 1. This bill is first applicable to tax year 1996.
- 2. Under current law there is no minimum standard deduction; in tax year 1996 the minimum standard deduction for married couples filing jointly and for head of households would be \$3,300. The minimum standard deduction for all other filers would be \$1,650.
- 3. Providing the minimum standard deduction in assumption 2 reduces tax year 1996 liabilities for all filers by \$1,100,000; this translates into a revenue loss of a like amount for fiscal year 1997. There is no revenue impact in fiscal year 1996.
- Providing the minimum standard deduction in assumption 2 reduces tax liability from a
 positive amount to zero for approximately 14,341 households in tax year 1996 (DOR
 computer simulation model).

FISCAL IMPACT:

Expenditures:

The proposed legislation would require changes to the income tax system, and the income tax form, which would result in minor increases in administrative expenses.

Revenues:

	FY96	FY97
	Difference	<u>Difference</u>
Individual Income Tax (01)	No Change	\$(1,100,000)

TECHNICAL NOTES:

The bill does not amend statute 15-30-122(2) to provide for indexation of the minimum standard deduction. The bill should index the minimum standard deduction for single filers and require that double this amount be used for joint and head of household filers.

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

JOHN COBB, FRIMARY SPONSOR DATE Fiscal Note for HB0209, as introduced

1/0 000

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 209
2	INTRODUCED BY COBB

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE MONTANA STATE INCOME TAX BY PROVIDING 4 A MINIMUM STANDARD DEDUCTION OF \$1,590, OR \$3,180 FOR A JOINT RETURN OR FOR A HEAD OF 6 HOUSEHOLD RETURN, ADJUSTED TO THE 1980 INFLATION FACTOR, AND BY INCREASING THE 7 MINIMUM INCOME FILING REQUIREMENT; AMENDING SECTIONS 15-30-122 AND 15-30-142, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY DATE AND A CONTINGENT VOIDNESS PROVISION." 8

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

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Section 1. Section 15-30-122, MCA, is amended to read:

"15-30-122. Standard deduction. (1) A standard deduction equal to 20% of adjusted gross income shall be is allowed if elected by the taxpayer on his a return. The standard deduction shall be is in lieu of all deductions allowed under 15-30-121. The minimum standard deduction is \$860 \$665, and the AS ADJUSTED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (2), OR 20% OF ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME, WHICHEVER IS GREATER, TO A maximum standard deduction shall be is OF \$1,500, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (2), except that. HOWEVER, in the case of a single joint return of husband and wife or in the case of a single individual who qualifies to file as a head of household on his the federal income tax return, the minimum standard deduction is \$1,720 \$1,330 and the, AS ADJUSTED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (2), OR 20% OF ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME, WHICHEVER IS GREATER, TO A maximum standard deduction shall be is OF \$3,000, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (2). The standard deduction shall may not be allowed to either the husband or the wife if the tax of one of the spouses is determined without regard to the standard deduction. For purposes of this section, the determination of whether an individual is married shall must be made as of the last day of the taxable tax year; provided, however, if unless one of the spouses dies during the taxable tax year, in which case the determination shall must be made as of the date of death.

(2) By November 1 of each year, the department shall multiply BOTH THE MINIMUM AND the maximum standard deduction for single returns by the inflation factor for that taxable tax year and round the product to the nearest \$10. The MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM standard deduction for joint returns and



qualified head of household returns shall <u>must</u> be twice the amount <u>OF THE MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM</u>

<u>STANDARD DEDUCTION</u> for single returns. The resulting adjusted deductions are effective for that taxable tax year and shall <u>must</u> be used in calculating the tax imposed in 15-30-103."

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Section 2. Section 15-30-142, MCA, is amended to read:

"15-30-142. Returns and payment of tax -- penalty and interest -- refunds -- credits. (1) Every Each single individual and every each married individual not filing a joint return with his or her a spouse and having a gross income for the taxable tax year of more than \$1,000 \$1,500, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (7), and married individuals not filing separate returns and having a combined gross income for the taxable tax year of more than \$2,000 \$3,000, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (7), shall be are liable for a return to be filed on such forms and according to such rules as that the department may prescribe. The gross income amounts referred to in the preceding sentence shall must be increased by \$800, as adjusted under the provisions of 15-30-112(6), for each additional personal exemption allowance that the taxpayer is entitled to claim for himself the taxpayer and his the taxpayer's spouse under 15-30-112(3) and (4). A nonresident shall be required to file a return if his gross income for the taxable year derived from sources within Montana exceeds the amount of the exemption doduction he is entitled to claim for himself and his spouse under the provisions of 15 30 112(2), (3), and (4), based upon Montana income, as is required of Montana residents IF THE TAXPAYER'S GROSS INCOME FOR THE TAX YEAR DERIVED FROM SOURCES WITHIN MONTANA EXCEEDS THE AMOUNT OF THE PERSONAL EXEMPTION THAT THE TAXPAYER IS ENTITLED TO CLAIM FOR THE TAXPAYER AND THE TAXPAYER'S SPOUSE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF 15-30-112(2) THROUGH (4).

- (2) In accordance with instructions set forth by the department, every each taxpayer who is married and living with husband or wife and is required to file a return may, at his or her the taxpayer's option, file a joint return with husband or wife even though one of the spouses has neither gross income nor deductions. If a joint return is made, the tax shall must be computed on the aggregate taxable income and the liability with respect to the tax shall be is joint and several. If a joint return has been filed for a taxable tax year, the spouses may not file separate returns after the time for filing the return of either has expired unless the department seconsents.
- (3) If any such a taxpayer is unable to make his the taxpayer's own return, the return shall must be made by a duly an authorized agent or by a guardian or other person charged with the care of the person



- 2 - HB 209

or property of such the taxpayer.

- (4) All taxpayers, including but not limited to those subject to the provisions of 15-30-202 and 15-30-241, shall compute the amount of income tax payable and shall, at the time of filing the return required by this chapter, pay to the department any balance of income tax remaining unpaid after crediting the amount withheld, as provided by 15-30-202, and/or and any payment made by reason of an estimated tax return provided for in 15-30-241; provided, however However, the tax so computed is must be greater by \$1 than the amount withheld and/or and paid by estimated return as provided in this chapter. If the amount of tax withheld and/or and the payment of estimated tax exceeds exceed by more than \$1 the amount of income tax as computed, the taxpayer shall be is entitled to a refund of the excess.
 - (5) As soon as practicable after the return is filed, the department shall examine and verify the tax.
- (6) If the amount of tax as verified is greater than the amount theretofore paid, the excess shall must be paid by the taxpayer to the department within 60 days after notice of the amount of the tax as computed, with interest added at the rate of 9% per annum a year or fraction thereof of a year on the additional tax. In such that case, there shall may not be no a penalty because of such the understatement, provided if the deficiency is paid within 60 days after the first notice of the amount is mailed to the taxpayer.
- (7) By November 1 of each year, the department shall multiply the minimum amount of gross income necessitating the filing of a return by the inflation factor for the taxable tax year. These adjusted amounts are effective for that taxable tax year, and persons having who have gross incomes less than these adjusted amounts are not required to file a return.
- (8) Individual income tax forms distributed by the department for each taxable tax year must contain instructions and tables based on the adjusted base year structure for that taxable tax year."

NEW SECTION. SECTION 3. CONTINGENT VOIDNESS. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN A BALANCED BUDGET, BECAUSE [THIS ACT] REDUCES REVENUE, IT MAY NOT BE TRANSMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR UNLESS A CORRESPONDING IDENTIFIED REDUCTION IN SPENDING IS CONTAINED IN HOUSE BILL NO.

2. IF A CORRESPONDING IDENTIFIED REDUCTION IN SPENDING IS NOT CONTAINED IN HOUSE BILL NO.

2. [THIS ACT] IS VOID.

NEW SECTION. Section 4. Applicability. [This act] [SECTION 1] applies to tax years beginning

Montana Legislative Council

1 after December 31, 1995.

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-END-

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 209
2	INTRODUCED BY COBE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT <u>REVISING THE MONTANA STATE INCOME TAX BY PROVIDING</u>
A MINIMUM STANDARD DEDUCTION OF \$1,590, OR \$3,180 FOR A JOINT-RETURN OR FOR A HEAD OF
HOUSEHOLD RETURN, ADJUSTED TO THE 1980 INFLATION FACTOR, AND BY INCREASING THE
MINIMUM INCOME FILING REQUIREMENT; AMENDING SECTIONS 15-30-122 AND 15-30-142, MCA; AND
PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY DATE AND A CONTINGENT VOIDNESS COORDINATION PROVISION."

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

Section 1. Section 15-30-122, MCA, is amended to read:

"15-30-122. Standard deduction. (1) A standard deduction equal to 20% of adjusted gross income shall be is allowed if elected by the taxpayer on his a return. The standard deduction shall be is in lieu of all deductions allowed under 15-30-121. The minimum standard deduction is \$860 \$665, and the AS ADJUSTED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (2), OR 20% OF ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME, WHICHEVER IS GREATER, TO A maximum standard deduction shall be is OF \$1,500, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (2), except that. HOWEVER, in the case of a single joint return of husband and wife or in the case of a single individual who qualifies to file as a head of household on his the federal income tax return, the minimum standard deduction is \$1,720 \$1,330 and the, AS ADJUSTED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (2), OR 20% OF ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME, WHICHEVER IS GREATER, TO A maximum standard deduction shall may not be allowed to either the husband or the wife if the tax of one of the spouses is determined without regard to the standard deduction. For purposes of this section, the determination of whether an individual is married shall must be made as of the last day of the taxable tax year; provided, however, if unless one of the spouses dies during the taxable tax year, in which case the determination shall must be made as of the date of death.

(2) By November 1 of each year, the department shall multiply <u>BOTH THE MINIMUM AND</u> the maximum standard deduction for single returns by the inflation factor for that taxable tax year and round the product to the nearest \$10. The <u>MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM</u> standard deduction for joint returns and



qualified head of household returns shall must be twice the amount OF THE MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM STANDARD DEDUCTION for single returns. The resulting adjusted deductions are effective for that taxable tax year and shall must be used in calculating the tax imposed in 15-30-103."

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Section 2. Section 15-30-142, MCA, is amended to read:

"15-30-142. Returns and payment of tax -- penalty and interest -- refunds -- credits. (1) Every Each single individual and every each married individual not filing a joint return with his or her a spouse and having a gross income for the taxable tax year of more than \$1,000 \$1,500, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (7), and married individuals not filing separate returns and having a combined gross income for the taxable tax year of more than \$2,000, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (7), shall be are liable for a return to be filed on such forms and according to such rules as that the department may prescribe. The gross income amounts referred to in the preceding sentence shall must be increased by \$800, as adjusted under the provisions of 15-30-112(6), for each additional personal exemption allowance that the taxpayer is entitled to claim for himself the taxpayer and his the taxpayer's spouse under 15-30-112(3) and (4). A nonresident shall be required to file a return if his gross income for the taxable year derived from sources within Montana exceeds the amount of the exemption deduction he is entitled to claim for himself and his speuse under the provisions of 15 30 112(2), (3), and (4), based upon Montana income, as is required of Montana residents IF THE TAXPAYER'S GROSS INCOME FOR THE TAX YEAR DERIVED FROM SOURCES WITHIN MONTANA EXCEEDS THE AMOUNT OF THE PERSONAL EXEMPTION THAT THE TAXPAYER IS ENTITLED TO CLAIM FOR THE TAXPAYER AND THE TAXPAYER'S SPOUSE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF 15-30-112(2) THROUGH (4).

- (2) In accordance with instructions set forth by the department, every each taxpayer who is married and living with husband or wife and is required to file a return may, at his or her the taxpayer's option, file a joint return with husband or wife even though one of the spouses has neither gross income nor deductions. If a joint return is made, the tax shall must be computed on the aggregate taxable income and the liability with respect to the tax shall be is joint and several. If a joint return has been filed for a taxable tax year, the spouses may not file separate returns after the time for filing the return of either has expired unless the department se consents.
- (3) If any such a taxpayer is unable to make his the taxpayer's own return, the return shall must be made by a duly an authorized agent or by a guardian or other person charged with the care of the person

- 2 -



or property of such the taxpayer.

- (4) All taxpayers, including but not limited to those subject to the provisions of 15-30-202 and 15-30-241, shall compute the amount of income tax payable and shall, at the time of filing the return required by this chapter, pay to the department any balance of income tax remaining unpaid after crediting the amount withheld, as provided by 15-30-202, and/or and any payment made by reason of an estimated tax return provided for in 15-30-241; provided, however However, the tax so computed is must be greater by \$1 than the amount withheld and/or and paid by estimated return as provided in this chapter. If the amount of tax withheld and/or and the payment of estimated tax exceeds exceed by more than \$1 the amount of income tax as computed, the taxpayer shall be is entitled to a refund of the excess.
 - (5) As soon as practicable after the return is filed, the department shall examine and verify the tax.
- (6) If the amount of tax as verified is greater than the amount theretofore paid, the excess shall must be paid by the taxpayer to the department within 60 days after notice of the amount of the tax as computed, with interest added at the rate of 9% per annum a year or fraction thereof of a year on the additional tax. In such that case, there shall may not be no a penalty because of such the understatement, provided if the deficiency is paid within 60 days after the first notice of the amount is mailed to the taxpayer.
- (7) By November 1 of each year, the department shall multiply the minimum amount of gross income necessitating the filing of a return by the inflation factor for the taxable tax year. These adjusted amounts are effective for that taxable tax year, and persons having who have gross incomes less than these adjusted amounts are not required to file a return.
- (8) Individual income tax forms distributed by the department for each taxable tax year must contain instructions and tables based on the adjusted base year structure for that taxable tax year."

NEW SECTION. SECTION 3. CONTINGENT VOIDNESS. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN A BALANCED BUDGET, BECAUSE [THIS ACT] REDUCES REVENUE, IT MAY NOT BE TRANSMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR UNLESS A CORRESPONDING IDENTIFIED REDUCTION IN SPENDING IS CONTAINED IN HOUSE BILL NO.

2. IF A CORRESPONDING IDENTIFIED REDUCTION IN SPENDING IS NOT CONTAINED IN HOUSE BILL NO.

2. [THIS ACT] IS VOID.

NEW SECTION. SECTION 3. COORDINATION. IF HOUSE BILL NO. 35 IS PASSED AND



ŀ	APPROVED, THEN THIS ACTTIS VOID.
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3	NEW SECTION. Section 4. Applicability. [This act] [SECTION 1] applies to tax years beginning
4	after December 31, 1995.

-END-



STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Fiscal Note for HB0209, Third Reading

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

An act providing a minimum standard deduction of \$1,590, or \$3,180 for a joint return or for a head of household return, adjusted to the 1980 inflation factor; and providing an applicability date.

ASSUMPTIONS:

- 1. This bill is first applicable to tax year 1996.
- 2. Providing the minimum standard deduction as proposed reduces tax year 1996 liabilities for all filers by \$520,000; this translates into a revenue loss of a like amount for fiscal year 1997. There is no revenue impact in fiscal year 1996.
- 3. For purposes of this fiscal note, HB0035 is assumed to fail to be approved.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Expenditures:

The proposed legislation would require changes to the income tax system, and the income tax form, which would result in minor increases in administrative expenses.

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 FY96
 FY97

 Difference
 Difference

 Individual Income Tax (01)
 No Change
 \$(520,000)

DAVE LEWIS, BUDGET DIRECTOR

DATE

Office of Budget and Program Planning

JOHN COBE, PRIMARY SPONSOR

DATE

Fiscal Note for HB0209, Third Reading

HB 209 # 2

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 209
2	INTRODUCED BY COBB

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT <u>REVISING THE MONTANA STATE INCOME TAX BY PROVIDING</u>
A MINIMUM STANDARD DEDUCTION OF \$1,590, OR \$3,180 FOR A JOINT RETURN OR FOR A HEAD OF
HOUSEHOLD RETURN, ADJUSTED TO THE 1980 INFLATION FACTOR, AND BY INCREASING THE
MINIMUM INCOME FILING REQUIREMENT; AMENDING SECTIONS 15-30-122 AND 15-30-142, MCA; AND
PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY DATE AND A CONTINGENT VOIDNESS COORDINATION PROVISION."

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

Section 1. Section 15-30-122, MCA, is amended to read:

"15-30-122. Standard deduction. (1) A standard deduction equal to 20% of adjusted gross income shall be is allowed if elected by the taxpayer on hie a return. The standard deduction shall be is in lieu of all deductions allowed under 15-30-121. The minimum standard deduction is \$860 \$665, and the AS ADJUSTED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (2), OR 20% OF ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME, WHICHEVER IS GREATER, TO A maximum standard deduction shall be is OF \$1,500, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (2), except that. HOWEVER, in the case of a single joint return of husband and wife or in the case of a single individual who qualifies to file as a head of household on his the federal income tax return, the minimum standard deduction is \$1,720 \$1,330 and the, AS ADJUSTED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (2), OR 20% OF ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME, WHICHEVER IS GREATER, TO A maximum standard deduction shall be is OF \$3,000, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (2). The standard deduction shall may not be allowed to either the husband or the wife if the tax of one of the spouses is determined without regard to the standard deduction. For purposes of this section, the determination of whether an individual is married shall must be made as of the last day of the taxable tax year; provided, however, if unless one of the spouses dies during the taxable tax year, in which case the determination shall must be made as of the date of death.

(2) By November 1 of each year, the department shall multiply <u>BOTH THE MINIMUM AND</u> the maximum standard deduction for single returns by the inflation factor for that taxable tax year and round the product to the nearest \$10. The <u>MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM</u> standard deduction for joint returns and



qualified head of household returns shall <u>must</u> be twice the amount <u>OF THE MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM</u>

<u>STANDARD DEDUCTION</u> for single returns. The resulting adjusted deductions are effective for that taxable tax year and shall <u>must</u> be used in calculating the tax imposed in 15-30-103."

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Section 2. Section 15-30-142, MCA, is amended to read:

"15-30-142. Returns and payment of tax -- penalty and interest -- refunds -- credits. (1) Every Each single individual and every each married individual not filing a joint return with his or her a spouse and having a gross income for the taxable tax year of more than \$1,000 \$1,500, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (7), and married individuals not filing separate returns and having a combined gross income for the taxable tax year of more than \$2,000, as adjusted under the provisions of subsection (7), shall be are liable for a return to be filed on such forms and according to such rules as that the department may prescribe. The gross income amounts referred to in the preceding sentence shall must be increased by \$800, as adjusted under the provisions of 15-30-112(6), for each additional personal exemption allowance that the taxpayer is entitled to claim for himself the taxpayer and his the taxpayer's spouse under 15-30-112(3) and (4). A nonresident shall be required to file a return if his gross income for the taxable year derived from sources within Montana exceeds the amount of the exemption deduction he is entitled to claim for himself and his spouse under the provisions of 15-30 112(2), (3), and (4), based upon Montana income, as is required of Montana recidents IF THE TAXPAYER'S GROSS INCOME FOR THE TAX YEAR DERIVED FROM SOURCES WITHIN MONTANA EXCEEDS THE AMOUNT OF THE PERSONAL EXEMPTION THAT THE TAXPAYER IS ENTITLED TO CLAIM FOR THE TAXPAYER AND THE TAXPAYER'S SPOUSE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF 15-30-112(2) THROUGH (4).

- (2) In accordance with instructions set forth by the department, every each taxpayer who is married and living with husband or wife and is required to file a return may, at his or her the taxpayer's option, file a joint return with husband or wife even though one of the spouses has neither gross income nor deductions. If a joint return is made, the tax shall must be computed on the aggregate taxable income and the liability with respect to the tax shall be is joint and several. If a joint return has been filed for a taxable tax year, the spouses may not file separate returns after the time for filing the return of either has expired unless the department se consents.
- (3) If any such a taxpayer is unable to make his the taxpayer's own return, the return shall must be made by a duly an authorized agent or by a guardian or other person charged with the care of the person



or property of such the taxpayer.

- (4) All taxpayers, including but not limited to those subject to the provisions of 15-30-202 and 15-30-241, shall compute the amount of income tax payable and shall, at the time of filing the return required by this chapter, pay to the department any balance of income tax remaining unpaid after crediting the amount withheld, as provided by 15-30-202, and/or and any payment made by reason of an estimated tax return provided for in 15-30-241; provided, however However, the tax so computed is must be greater by \$1 than the amount withheld and/or and paid by estimated return as provided in this chapter. If the amount of tax withheld and/or and the payment of estimated tax exceeds exceed by more than \$1 the amount of income tax as computed, the taxpayer shall be is entitled to a refund of the excess.
 - (5) As soon as practicable after the return is filed, the department shall examine and verify the tax.
- (6) If the amount of tax as verified is greater than the amount theretofore paid, the excess shall must be paid by the taxpayer to the department within 60 days after notice of the amount of the tax as computed, with interest added at the rate of 9% per annum a year or fraction thereof of a year on the additional tax. In such that case, there shall may not be no a penalty because of such the understatement, provided if the deficiency is paid within 60 days after the first notice of the amount is mailed to the taxpayer.
- (7) By November 1 of each year, the department shall multiply the minimum amount of gross income necessitating the filing of a return by the inflation factor for the taxable tax year. These adjusted amounts are effective for that taxable tax year, and persons having who have gross incomes less than these adjusted amounts are not required to file a return.
- (8) Individual income tax forms distributed by the department for each taxable tax year must contain instructions and tables based on the adjusted base year structure for that taxable tax year."

NEW SECTION. SECTION 3. CONTINGENT VOIDNESS. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN A BALANCED BUDGET, BECAUSE [THIS ACT] REDUCES REVENUE, IT MAY NOT BE TRANSMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR UNLESS A CORRESPONDING IDENTIFIED REDUCTION IN SPENDING IS CONTAINED IN HOUSE BILL NO.

2. IF A CORRESPONDING IDENTIFIED REDUCTION IN SPENDING IS NOT CONTAINED IN HOUSE BILL NO.

2. [THIS ACT] IS VOID.

NEW SECTION. SECTION 3. COORDINATION. IF HOUSE BILL NO. 35 IS PASSED AND



1	APPROVED, THEN [THIS ACT] IS VOID.	
2		
3	NEW SECTION. Section 4. Applicability.	[This aet] [SECTION 1] applies to tax years beginning

-END-

after December 31, 1995.

