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INTRODUCED BY Cobb ~~House~~ BILL NO. 434

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CREATING A TREASURE STATE LIVING CULTURAL TREASURES PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING FOR NOMINATION AND SELECTION OF HONOREES."

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

**NEW SECTION. Section 1. Treasure state living cultural treasures program.** There is a treasure state living cultural treasures program to honor Montanans who are dedicated to preserving and passing on the traditional skills and knowledge found in Montana and whose work exemplifies Montana's folk culture in all of its varieties. The names of the honorees will be made available to educators, community groups, and other interested persons as a resource for information and education. A speakers' bureau registry of honorees will be created and maintained by the governor's office.

**NEW SECTION. Section 2. Purpose.** (1) The purpose of the treasure state living cultural treasures program is to preserve the historical traditions and folk culture of Montana by honoring those who actively practice and preserve the skills and knowledge of Montana's folk culture. The program is intended to honor those who have devoted their energies to carrying forward the skills of the past and preserving the traditions and, in doing so, exemplify the vitality, variety, and excellence of Montana's folk culture. Montana and the surrounding region have a unique western folk culture that has developed from living in a sometimes harsh and always variable climate and from creating beauty and recreation from the tasks of ordinary life.

(2) Folk culture includes the forms in which the common culture of Montana manifests itself, such as in traditional music, arts and crafts, survival skills, cooking, occupational skills, storytelling, ritual and custom, and myriad other folk and traditional artistic expressions. The most important elements of Montana's history and culture have been passed on through the generations by Montanans who pursue traditional occupations and create beauty in their everyday life.

(3) Montana's folk culture is a blend of native, ethnic, racial, occupational, and regional traditions that sometimes coexist and sometimes blend, including traditionally masculine and feminine domains that

1 together create a many-faceted culture within the state.

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3 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Honorees -- nominations -- selection -- certificate of proclamation --**  
4 **speakers' bureau.** (1) County commissioners shall annually solicit nominations of persons who exemplify  
5 aspects of Montana's folk and common culture from local groups in their county, including but not limited  
6 to senior citizens' groups, community centers, county historical societies, local art agencies, labor and trade  
7 organizations, schools, and other local groups.

8 (2) When a solicitation of nominations is completed, the county commissioners shall compile a list  
9 of nominees from their county and present the list to the governor. The governor shall select five honorees.

10 (3) Each honoree shall receive:

11 (a) a certificate signed by the governor proclaiming the honoree to be a "Treasure State Living  
12 Cultural Treasure"; and

13 (b) an invitation to be included in the speakers' bureau.

14 (4) The speakers' bureau is a registry, maintained by the governor's office, of the treasure state  
15 living cultural treasures honorees and the skills and areas for which each honoree is recognized and can be  
16 called upon as a resource for the school-age population and all other residents of the state. The registry  
17 may include a fee schedule that delineates the speaker's fee, reimbursement for travel costs and per diem,  
18 and any other necessary expenses, if any, to be paid to the speaker by the organizations and schools that  
19 arrange for the speaker's services.

20 (5) The governor's office shall send on an annual basis a copy of the registry to the superintendent  
21 of public instruction, who shall send a copy to each school district of the state.

22 (6) The superintendent of public instruction shall inform and encourage the school districts to use  
23 the registry to choose speakers in various areas of folk and common culture as resources in furthering the  
24 knowledge of the school-age population in the state on the unique western folk culture of Montana.

25 (7) The registry is to be made available for a reasonable charge to any person in the state upon  
26 request.

27

28 NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Codification instruction.** [Sections 1 through 3] are intended to be  
29 codified as an integral part of Title 2, chapter 15, part 2, and the provisions of Title 2, chapter 15, part 2,  
30 apply to [sections 1 through 3].

-END-

- 2 -

APPROVED BY COM ON EDUCATION  
AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 434

2 INTRODUCED BY COBB

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3 NEW SECTION. Section 3. Honorees -- nominations -- selection -- certificate of proclamation --  
 4 speakers' bureau. (1) County commissioners shall MAY annually solicit nominations of persons who  
 5 exemplify aspects of Montana's folk and common culture from local groups in their county, including but  
 6 not limited to senior citizens' groups, community centers, county historical societies, local art agencies,  
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8 (2) When a solicitation of nominations is completed, the county commissioners shall compile a list  
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14 (b) an invitation to be included in the speakers' bureau.

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 17 called upon as a resource for the school-age population and all other residents of the state. The registry  
 18 may include a fee schedule that delineates the speaker's fee, reimbursement for travel costs and per diem,  
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21 (5) The governor's office shall send on an annual basis a copy of the registry to the superintendent  
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 25 knowledge of the school-age population in the state on the unique western folk culture of Montana.

26 (7) The registry is to be made available for a reasonable charge to any person in the state upon  
 27 request.

28 (8) THE INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TREASURE  
 29 STATE LIVING CULTURAL TREASURES PROGRAM AND TO SUBMIT NOMINEES TO THE GOVERNOR AS  
 30 PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2). FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION, "INDIAN TRIBAL

1 GOVERNMENT" MEANS AN INDIAN TRIBE, NATION, OR OTHER ORGANIZED GROUP OR COMMUNITY  
2 LOCATED WITHIN THE EXISTING BOUNDARIES OF MONTANA.

3  
4 NEW SECTION. SECTION 4. NOTIFICATION OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS. THE SECRETARY OF  
5 STATE SHALL SEND A COPY OF [THIS ACT] TO THE TRIBAL CHAIRPERSON OF EACH TRIBE OR TRIBES  
6 LOCATED ON THE SEVEN MONTANA RESERVATIONS AND TO THE TRIBAL CHAIRPERSON OF THE  
7 LITTLE SHELL TRIBE.

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9 NEW SECTION. Section 5. Codification instruction. [Sections 1 through 3] are intended to be  
10 codified as an integral part of Title 2, chapter 15, part 2, and the provisions of Title 2, chapter 15, part 2,  
11 apply to [sections 1 through 3].

12 -END-

STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Fiscal Note for HB0434, as introduced

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

A bill creating a treasure state cultural treasures program and providing nomination and selection of honorees.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. HB434 proposes the creation of a registry of speakers who have been honored by the Governor as "living cultural treasures." Each year the Governor's Office must send a copy of the registry to the state Superintendent of Public Instruction who must send a copy of the registry to each school district. There will be no impact on the expenditures of the Office of Public Instruction as a result of this bill.
2. The proposed duties can be accomplished with the existing resources in the Governor's Office. There is no fiscal impact on the Governor's Office.
3. The Montana Arts Council, through its folklife program, will provide minor assistance as requested. There is no fiscal impact on the Montana Arts Council.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

EFFECT ON COUNTY OR OTHER LOCAL REVENUES OR EXPENDITURES:

The fiscal impact on county governments, if any, is estimated to be minimal.

Good fiscal note

Dave Lewis 2-11-95  
DAVE LEWIS, BUDGET DIRECTOR      DATE  
Office of Budget and Program Planning

John Cobb  
JOHN COBB, PRIMARY SPONSOR      DATE

Fiscal Note for HB0434, as introduced

**HB 434**

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