1	SENATE BILL NO. 7
2	INTRODUCED BY FOSTER
3	BY REQUEST OF THE REVENUE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
4	
5	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING THE ALLOCATION OF THE METAL
6	MINES LICENSE TAX; CORRECTING AN OVERALLOCATION OF THE METAL MINES LICENSE TAX;
7	PROVIDING THAT 15.5 PERCENT OF THE METAL MINES TAX IS DISTRIBUTED IN THE SAME MANNER
8	AS THE RESOURCE INDEMNITY AND GROUND WATER ASSESSMENT TAX; AMENDING SECTIONS
9	7-6-2225, 7-6-2226, 15-37-117, 20-9-231, 85-2-905, AND 90-2-1104, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN
10	EFFECTIVE DATE."
11	
12	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
13	
14	Section 1. Section 7-6-2225, MCA, is amended to read:
15	"7-6-2225. County hard-rock mine trust reserve account expenditure restrictions. (1) The
16	governing body of a county receiving an allocation under 15-37-117 (1)(f)(1)(d) shall establish a county
17	hard-rock mine trust reserve account.
18	(2) Money received by a county pursuant to 15-37-117 or 90-6-331 must remain in the account
19	and may not be appropriated by the governing body until:
20	(a) a mining operation has permanently ceased all mining related activity; or
21	(b) the number of persons employed full-time in mining activities by the mining operation is less
22	than one-half of the average number of persons employed full-time in mining activities by the mining
23	operation during the immediately preceding 5-year period.
24	(3) If the circumstances described in subsection (2)(a) or (2)(b) occur, the governing body of the
25	county must <u>shall</u> allocate at least one-third of the funds proportionally to affected high school districts and
26	elementary school districts in the county, and may use the remaining funds in the account to:
27	(a) pay for outstanding capital project bonds or other expenses incurred prior to the end of mining
28	activity or the reduction in the mining work force <u>workforce</u> described in subsection (2)(b);
29	(b) decrease property tax mill levies that are directly caused by the cessation or reduction of mining
30	activity;



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1	(c) promote diversification and development of the economic base within the jurisdiction of a local
2	government unit;
3	(d) attract new industry to the impact area;
4	(e) provide cash incentives for expanding the employment base of the area impacted by the
5	changes in mining activity described in subsection (2); or
6	(f) provide grants or loans to other local government jurisdictions to assist with impacts caused by
7	the changes in mining activity described in subsection (2).
8	(4) Except as provided in subsection (3)(b), money held in the account may not be considered as
9	cash balance for the purpose of reducing mill levies.
10	(5) Money in the reserve account must be invested as provided by law. Interest and income from
11	the investment of funds in the account must be credited to the account."
12	
13	Section 2. Section 7-6-2226, MCA, is amended to read:
14	"7-6-2226. Metal mines tax reserve account. (1) The governing body of a county receiving tax
15	collections under 15-37-117 (1)(f)(1)(d) may establish a metal mines tax reserve account to be used to hold
16	the collections. The governing body may hold money in the account for any time period considered
17	appropriate by the governing body. Money held in the account may not be considered as cash balance for
18	the purpose of reducing mill levies.
19	(2) Money may be expended from the account for any purpose provided by law.
20	(3) Money in the account must be invested as provided by law. Interest and income from the
21	investment of the metal mines tax reserve account must be credited to the account."
22	
23	Section 3. Section 15-37-117, MCA, is amended to read:
24	"15-37-117. (Temporary) Disposition of metalliferous mines license taxes. (1) Metalliferous mines
25	license taxes collected under the provisions of this part must, in accordance with the provisions of
26	15-1-501, be allocated as follows:
27	(a) to the credit of the general fund of the state, 58% of total collections each year;
28	(b) to the state special revenue fund to the credit of a hard-rock mining impact trust account, 1.5%
29	of total collections each year;
30	(c) to the abandoned mines state special revenue account provided for in section 19, Chapter 584,

- 2 -

1 Laws of 1995, 8.5% of total collections each year; 2 (d) to the ground water assessment account established in 85-2-905, 2.2% of total collections 3 each year; 4 (e) to the reclamation and development grants program state special revenue account, 4.8% of 5 total collections each year; and 6 (f) to the county or counties identified as experiencing fiscal and economic impacts, resulting in 7 increased employment or local government costs, under an impact plan for a large-scale mineral 8 development prepared and approved pursuant to 90-6-307, in direct proportion to the fiscal and economic 9 impacts determined in the plan, or, if an impact plan has not been prepared, to the county in which the 10 mine is located, 25% of total collections each year, to be allocated by the county commissioners as 11 follows: 12 (i) not less than 40% to the county hard-rock mine trust reserve account established in 7-6-2225; 13 and 14 (ii) all money not allocated to the account pursuant to subsection (1)(f)(i) to be further allocated as 15 follows: (A) 33 1/3% is allocated to the county for planning or economic development activities; 16 17 (B) 33 1/3% is allocated to the elementary school districts within the county that have been affected by the development or operation of the metal mine; and 18 19 (C) 33 1/3% is allocated to the high school districts within the county that have been affected by 20 the development or operation of the metal mine. 21 (2) When an impact plan for a large-scale mineral development approved pursuant to 90-6-307 22 identifies a jurisdictional revenue disparity, the county shall distribute the proceeds allocated under 23 subsection (1)(f) in a manner similar to that provided for property tax sharing under Title 90, chapter 6, part 24 4. 25 (3) The department shall return to the county in which metals are produced the tax collections 26 allocated under subsection (1)(f). The allocation to the county described by subsection (1)(f) is a statutory appropriation pursuant to 17-7-502. (Terminates June 30, 1997--sec. 27, Ch. 584, L. 1995.) 27 28 15-37-117. (Effective July 1, 1997) Disposition of metalliferous mines license taxes. (1) 29 Metalliferous mines license taxes collected under the provisions of this part must, in accordance with the 30 provisions of 15-1-501, be allocated as follows:



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(a) to the credit of the general fund of the state, 58% of total collections each year; 1 2 (b) to the state special revenue fund to the credit of a hard-rock mining impact trust account, 1.5% 3 of total collections each year; (c) to the state resource indemnity trust fund and to the accounts described in 15-38-106(2), 4 15.5% of total collections each year to be distributed as provided in 15-38-106(2); 5 (d) to the ground water assessment account established in 85-2-905, 2.2% of total collections 6 7 each year; 8 (c) to the reelamation and development grants program state special revenue account, 4.8% of 9 total collections each year; and (f)(d) to the county or counties identified as experiencing fiscal and economic impacts, resulting 10 11 in increased employment or local government costs, under an impact plan for a large-scale mineral development prepared and approved pursuant to 90-6-307, in direct proportion to the fiscal and economic 12 13 impacts determined in the plan₇ or, if an impact plan has not been prepared, to the county in which the 14 mine is located, 25% of total collections each year, to be allocated by the county commissioners as 15 follows: 16 (i) not less than 40% to the county hard-rock mine trust reserve account established in 7-6-2225; 17 and (ii) all money not allocated to the account pursuant to subsection (1)(f)(i) (1)(d)(i) to be further 18 19 allocated as follows: 20 (A) $33 \ 1/3\%$ is allocated to the county for planning or economic development activities; 21 (B) 33 1/3% is allocated to the elementary school districts within the county that have been 22 affected by the development or operation of the metal mine; and 23 (C) 33 1/3% is allocated to the high school districts within the county that have been affected by 24 the development or operation of the metal mine. 25 (2) When an impact plan for a large-scale mineral development approved pursuant to 90-6-307 26 identifies a jurisdictional revenue disparity, the county shall distribute the proceeds allocated under 27 subsection (1)(f) (1)(d) in a manner similar to that provided for property tax sharing under Title 90, chapter 28 6, part 4. 29 (3) The department shall return to the county in which metals are produced the tax collections 30 allocated under subsection $\frac{1}{1}$ $\frac{1}{1}$. The allocation to the county described by subsection $\frac{1}{1}$ $\frac{1}{1}$



1	is a statutory appropriation pursuant to 17-7-502."
2	
3	Section 4. Section 20-9-231, MCA, is amended to read:
4	"20-9-231. Metal mines tax reserve fund. (1) The governing body of a local school district
5	receiving tax collections under 15-37-117 (1)(f)(1)(d) may establish a metal mines tax reserve fund to be
6	used to hold the collections. The governing body may hold money in the fund for any time period
7	considered appropriate by the governing body. Money held in the fund may not be considered as fund
8	balance for the purpose of reducing mill levies.
9	(2) Money may be expended from the fund for any purpose provided by law.
10	(3) Money in the fund must be invested as provided by law. Interest and income from the
11	investment of the metal mines tax reserve fund must be credited to the fund.
12	(4) The fund must be financially administered as a nonbudgeted fund under the provisions of this
13	title."
14	
15	Section 5. Section 85-2-905, MCA, is amended to read:
16	"85-2-905. Ground water assessment account. (1) There is a ground water assessment account
17	within the state special revenue fund established in 17-2-102. The Montana bureau of mines and geology
18.	is authorized to expend amounts from the account necessary to carry out the purposes of this part.
19	(2) The account may be used by the Montana bureau of mines and geology only to carry out the
20	provisions of this part.
21	(3) Subject to the direction of the ground water assessment steering committee, the Montana
22	bureau of mines and geology shall investigate opportunities for the participation and financial contribution
23	of agencies of federal and local governments to accomplish the purposes of this part.
24	(4) There must be deposited in the account:
25	(a) at the beginning of each fiscal year, 14.1% of the proceeds from the resource indemnity and
26	ground water assessment tax, as authorized by 15-38-106, and 2.2% of the proceeds from the
27	metalliforous mines license taxes, as authorized by 15-37-117, unless at the beginning of the fiscal year
28	the unobligated cash balance in the ground water assessment account:
29	(i) equals or exceeds \$666,000, in which case no <u>an</u> allocation will <u>may not</u> be made and the funds
30	proceeds must be deposited in the resource indemnity trust fund established by 15-38-201; or
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1	(ii) is less than \$666,000, in which case an amount equal to the difference between the unobligated
2	cash balance and \$666,000 must be allocated to the ground water assessment account and any remaining
3	amount must be deposited in the resource indemnity trust fund established by 15-38-201;
4	(b) funds provided by federal or state government agencies and by local governments to carry out
5	the purposes of this part; and
6	(c) funds provided by any other public or private sector organization or person in the form of gifts,
7	grants, or contracts specifically designated to carry out the purposes of this part."
8	
9	Section 6. Section 90-2-1104, MCA, is amended to read:
10	"90-2-1104. Reclamation and development grants account. (1) There is a reclamation and
11	development grants special revenue account within the state special revenue fund established in 17-2-102.
12	(2) There must be paid into the reclamation and development grants account money allocated from:
13	(a) the interest income of the resource indemnity trust fund under the provisions of 15-38-202; <u>and</u>
14	(b) the resource indemnity trust and ground water assessment tax under the provisions of
15	15-38-106 ; and
16	(c) the metal mines license tax proceeds as provided in 15-37-117(1)(e).
17	(3) Appropriations may be made from the reclamation and development grants account for the
18	following purposes:
19	(a) grants for designated projects; and
20	(b) administrative expenses, including the salaries and expenses of personnel, equipment, office
21	space, and other expenses necessarily incurred in the administration of the grants program. These expenses
22	may be funded prior to funding of projects."
23	
24	NEW SECTION. Section 7. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 1997.
25	-END-

STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Fiscal Note for SB0007. as introduced

<u>DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION</u>: An act generally revising the allocation of the Metal Mines License Tax; correcting an over allocation of the Metal Mines License Tax; providing that 15.5 percent of the Metal Mines License Tax is distributed in same manner as the Resource Indemnity and Ground Water Assessment Tax; and providing an effective date.

ASSUMPTIONS:

- 1. Metal mines tax collections will total \$5,577,000 in FY 98 and \$6.385,000 in FY 99 (ROC).
- 2. The Revenue Oversight Committee's estimates assume metal mines allocations to the accounts in question will be 8.5% to the RIT Trust, 2.2% to Groundwater Assessment and 4.8% to Research and Development Grants (the over allocation affects deposits to the trust only). These allocations are used for the "current" law comparisons below.
- 3. The proposal, with its reference to 15-38-106(2), MCA, results in the following allocations: 7.11% to the RIT Trust, 2.19% to Groundwater Assessment, 1.55% to Renewable Resources and 4.65% to Research and Development Grants.
- 4. The proposal will have a minor impact on trust earnings (\$7,700 in the biennium) since it reduces deposits into the trust relative to ROC estimates. The minimal loss is ignored below for brevity.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Affected Accounts:	<u>FY 98</u>	<u>FY 99</u>
RIT Trust (09)	(77,270)	(88,645)
Groundwater Assessment (02	(809)	(926)
Renewable Resources (02)	86,444	98,968
Research and Development (02)	(8,365)	(9,577)
Total	0	0

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

MIKE FOSTER, PRIMARY SPONSOR

Fiscal Note for <u>SB007</u>, as introduced SB7

APPROVED BY COM ON TAXATION

1	SENATE BILL NO. 7
2	INTRODUCED BY FOSTER
3	BY REQUEST OF THE REVENUE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
4	•
5	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING THE ALLOCATION OF THE METAL
6	MINES LICENSE TAX; CORRECTING AN OVERALLOCATION OF THE METAL MINES LICENSE TAX;
7	PROVIDING THAT 15.5 PERCENT OF THE METAL MINES TAX IS DISTRIBUTED IN THE SAME MANNER
8	AS THE RESOURCE INDEMNITY AND GROUND WATER ASSESSMENT TAX; AMENDING SECTIONS
9	7-6-2225, 7-6-2226, 15-37-117, 20-9-231, 85-2-905, AND 90-2-1104, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN
10	EFFECTIVE DATE."
11	

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

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THERE ARE NO CHANGES IN THIS BILL AND IT WILL NOT BE REPRINTED. PLEASE REFER TO INTRODUCED COPY (WHITE) FOR COMPLETE TEXT.

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9	7-6-2225, 7-6-2226, 15-37-117, 20-9-231, 85-2-905, AND 90-2-1104, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN
10	EFFECTIVE DATE."
11	

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA: 12

THERE ARE NO CHANGES IN THIS BILL AND IT WILL NOT BE **REPRINTED. PLEASE REFER TO INTRODUCED COPY** (WHITE) FOR COMPLETE TEXT.

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1	SENATE BILL NO. 7
2	INTRODUCED BY FOSTER
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5	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING THE ALLOCATION OF THE METAL
6	MINES LICENSE TAX; CORRECTING AN OVERALLOCATION OF THE METAL MINES LICENSE TAX;
7	PROVIDING THAT 15.5 PERCENT OF THE METAL MINES TAX IS DISTRIBUTED IN THE SAME MANNER
8	AS THE RESOURCE INDEMNITY AND GROUND WATER ASSESSMENT TAX; AMENDING SECTIONS
9	7-6-2225, 7-6-2226, 15-37-117, 20-9-231, 85-2-905, AND 90-2-1104, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN
10	EFFECTIVE DATE."
11	

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

THERE ARE NO CHANGES IN THIS BILL AND IT WILL NOT BE REPRINTED. PLEASE REFER TO THIRD READING COPY (BLUE) FOR COMPLETE TEXT.

Legislative Services Division

1	SENATE BILL NO. 7
2	INTRODUCED BY FOSTER
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5	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING THE ALLOCATION OF THE METAL
6	MINES LICENSE TAX; CORRECTING AN OVERALLOCATION OF THE METAL MINES LICENSE TAX;
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8	AS THE RESOURCE INDEMNITY AND GROUND WATER ASSESSMENT TAX; AMENDING SECTIONS
9	7-6-2225, 7-6-2226, 15-37-117, 20-9-231, 85-2-905, AND 90-2-1104, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN
10	EFFECTIVE DATE."
11	
12	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
13	
14	Section 1. Section 7-6-2225, MCA, is amended to read:
15	"7-6-2225. County hard-rock mine trust reserve account expenditure restrictions. (1) The
16	governing body of a county receiving an allocation under 15-37-117 (1)(1)(d) shall establish a county
17	hard-rock mine trust reserve account.
18	(2) Money received by a county pursuant to 15-37-117 or 90-6-331 must remain in the account
19	and may not be appropriated by the governing body until:
20	(a) a mining operation has permanently ceased all mining related activity; or
21	(b) the number of persons employed full-time in mining activities by the mining operation is less
22	than one-half of the average number of persons employed full-time in mining activities by the mining
23	operation during the immediately preceding 5-year period.
24	(3) If the circumstances described in subsection (2)(a) or (2)(b) occur, the governing body of the
25	county must shall allocate at least one-third of the funds proportionally to affected high school districts and
26	elementary school districts in the county, and may use the remaining funds in the account to:
27	(a) pay for outstanding capital project bonds or other expenses incurred prior to the end of mining
28	activity or the reduction in the mining work force <u>workforce</u> described in subsection (2)(b);
29	(b) decrease property tax mill levies that are directly caused by the cessation or reduction of mining
30	activity;



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1 (c) promote diversification and development of the economic base within the jurisdiction of a local 2 government unit; 3 (d) attract new industry to the impact area; 4 (e) provide cash incentives for expanding the employment base of the area impacted by the 5 changes in mining activity described in subsection (2); or 6 (f) provide grants or loans to other local government jurisdictions to assist with impacts caused by 7 the changes in mining activity described in subsection (2). 8 (4) Except as provided in subsection (3)(b), money held in the account may not be considered as 9 cash balance for the purpose of reducing mill levies. 10 (5) Money in the reserve account must be invested as provided by law. Interest and income from 11 the investment of funds in the account must be credited to the account." 12 13 Section 2. Section 7-6-2226, MCA, is amended to read: 14 "7-6-2226. Metal mines tax reserve account. (1) The governing body of a county receiving tax 15 collections under 15-37-117(1)(1)(d) may establish a metal mines tax reserve account to be used to hold 16 the collections. The governing body may hold money in the account for any time period considered 17 appropriate by the governing body. Money held in the account may not be considered as cash balance for 18 the purpose of reducing mill levies. 19 (2) Money may be expended from the account for any purpose provided by law. 20 (3) Money in the account must be invested as provided by law. Interest and income from the 21 investment of the metal mines tax reserve account must be credited to the account." 22 23 Section 3. Section 15-37-117, MCA, is amended to read: 24 "15-37-117. (Temporary) Disposition of metalliferous mines license taxes. (1) Metalliferous mines 25 license taxes collected under the provisions of this part must, in accordance with the provisions of 26 15-1-501, be allocated as follows: 27 (a) to the credit of the general fund of the state, 58% of total collections each year; 28 (b) to the state special revenue fund to the credit of a hard-rock mining impact trust account, 1.5% 29 of total collections each year; 30 (c) to the abandoned mines state special revenue account provided for in section 19, Chapter 584,



- 2 -

1 Laws of 1995, 8.5% of total collections each year;

2 (d) to the ground water assessment account established in 85-2-905, 2.2% of total collections
3 each year;

4 (e) to the reclamation and development grants program state special revenue account, 4.8% of 5 total collections each year; and

6 (f) to the county or counties identified as experiencing fiscal and economic impacts, resulting in 7 increased employment or local government costs, under an impact plan for a large-scale mineral 8 development prepared and approved pursuant to 90-6-307, in direct proportion to the fiscal and economic 9 impacts determined in the plan, or, if an impact plan has not been prepared, to the county in which the 10 mine is located, 25% of total collections each year, to be allocated by the county commissioners as 11 follows:

12

13 and

(ii) all money not allocated to the account pursuant to subsection (1)(f)(i) to be further allocated as
follows:

(i) not less than 40% to the county hard-rock mine trust reserve account established in 7-6-2225;

16 (A) 33 1/3% is allocated to the county for planning or economic development activities;

(B) 33 1/3% is allocated to the elementary school districts within the county that have been
affected by the development or operation of the metal mine; and

(C) 33 1/3% is allocated to the high school districts within the county that have been affected by
the development or operation of the metal mine.

(2) When an impact plan for a large-scale mineral development approved pursuant to 90-6-307
 identifies a jurisdictional revenue disparity, the county shall distribute the proceeds allocated under
 subsection (1)(f) in a manner similar to that provided for property tax sharing under Title 90, chapter 6, part
 4.

(3) The department shall return to the county in which metals are produced the tax collections
allocated under subsection (1)(f). The allocation to the county described by subsection (1)(f) is a statutory
appropriation pursuant to 17-7-502. (Terminates June 30, 1997--sec. 27, Ch. 584, L. 1995.)

15-37-117. (Effective July 1, 1997) Disposition of metalliferous mines license taxes. (1)
 Metalliferous mines license taxes collected under the provisions of this part must, in accordance with the
 provisions of 15-1-501, be allocated as follows:



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(a) to the credit of the general fund of the state, 58% of total collections each year; 1 2 (b) to the state special revenue fund to the credit of a hard-rock mining impact trust account, 1.5% 3 of total collections each year; 4 (c) to the state resource indemnity trust fund and to the accounts described in 15-38-106(2), 5 15.5% of total collections each year to be distributed as provided in 15-38-106(2); (d) to the ground water assessment account established in 85-2-905, 2.2% of total collections 6 7 each year; (e) to the reclamation and development grants program state special revenue account, 4.8% of 8 9 total collections each year; and 10 (f)(d) to the county or counties identified as experiencing fiscal and economic impacts, resulting in increased employment or local government costs, under an impact plan for a large-scale mineral 11 development prepared and approved pursuant to 90-6-307, in direct proportion to the fiscal and economic 12 impacts determined in the plan, or, if an impact plan has not been prepared, to the county in which the 13 14 mine is located, 25% of total collections each year, to be allocated by the county commissioners as 15 follows: 16 (i) not less than 40% to the county hard-rock mine trust reserve account established in 7-6-2225; 17 and 18 (ii) all money not allocated to the account pursuant to subsection (1)(f)(i) (1)(d)(i) to be further 19 allocated as follows: 20 (A) 33 1/3% is allocated to the county for planning or economic development activities; 21 (B) 33 1/3% is allocated to the elementary school districts within the county that have been 22 affected by the development or operation of the metal mine; and 23 (C) 33 1/3% is allocated to the high school districts within the county that have been affected by 24 the development or operation of the metal mine. 25 (2) When an impact plan for a large-scale mineral development approved pursuant to 90-6-307 26 identifies a jurisdictional revenue disparity, the county shall distribute the proceeds allocated under 27 subsection (1)(f) (1)(d) in a manner similar to that provided for property tax sharing under Title 90, chapter 28 6, part 4. (3) The department shall return to the county in which metals are produced the tax collections 29 30 allocated under subsection (1)(f) (1)(d). The allocation to the county described by subsection (1)(f) (1)(d)



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1	is a statutory appropriation pursuant to 17-7-502."
2	
3	Section 4. Section 20-9-231, MCA, is amended to read:
4	"20-9-231. Metal mines tax reserve fund. (1) The governing body of a local school district
5	receiving tax collections under 15-37-117 (1)(f)(1)(d) may establish a metal mines tax reserve fund to be
6	used to hold the collections. The governing body may hold money in the fund for any time period
7	considered appropriate by the governing body. Money held in the fund may not be considered as fund
8	balance for the purpose of reducing mill levies.
9	(2) Money may be expended from the fund for any purpose provided by law.
10	(3) Money in the fund must be invested as provided by law. Interest and income from the
11	investment of the metal mines tax reserve fund must be credited to the fund.
12	(4) The fund must be financially administered as a nonbudgeted fund under the provisions of this
13	title."
14	
15	Section 5. Section 85-2-905, MCA, is amended to read:
16	"85-2-905. Ground water assessment account. (1) There is a ground water assessment account
17	within the state special revenue fund established in 17-2-102. The Montana bureau of mines and geology
18	is authorized to expend amounts from the account necessary to carry out the purposes of this part.
19	(2) The account may be used by the Montana bureau of mines and geology only to carry out the
20	provisions of this part.
21	(3) Subject to the direction of the ground water assessment steering committee, the Montana
22	bureau of mines and geology shall investigate opportunities for the participation and financial contribution
23	of agencies of federal and local governments to accomplish the purposes of this part.
24	(4) There must be deposited in the account:
25	(a) at the beginning of each fiscal year, 14,1% of the proceeds from the resource indemnity and
26	ground water assessment tax, as authorized by 15-38-106, and 2.2% of the proceeds from the
27	metalliferous mines license taxes, as authorized by 15-37-117, unless at the beginning of the fiscal year
28	the unobligated cash balance in the ground water assessment account:
29	(i) equals or exceeds \$666,000, in which case no <u>an</u> allocation will <u>may not</u> be made and the funds
30	proceeds must be deposited in the resource indemnity trust fund established by 15-38-201; or
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1	(ii) is less than \$666,000, in which case an amount equal to the difference between the unobligated
2	cash balance and \$666,000 must be allocated to the ground water assessment account and any remaining
3	amount must be deposited in the resource indemnity trust fund established by 15-38-201;
4	(b) funds provided by federal or state government agencies and by local governments to carry out
5	the purposes of this part; and
6	(c) funds provided by any other public or private sector organization or person in the form of gifts,
7	grants, or contracts specifically designated to carry out the purposes of this part."
8	
9	Section 6. Section 90-2-1104, MCA, is amended to read:
10	"90-2-1104. Reclamation and development grants account. (1) There is a reclamation and
11	development grants special revenue account within the state special revenue fund established in 17-2-102.
12	(2) There must be paid into the reclamation and development grants account money allocated from:
13	(a) the interest income of the resource indemnity trust fund under the provisions of 15-38-202; <u>and</u>
14	(b) the resource indemnity trust <u>and ground water assessment</u> tax under the provisions of
15	15-38-106 ; and
16	(c) the metal mines license tax proceeds as provided in 15-37-117(1)(e).
17	(3) Appropriations may be made from the reclamation and development grants account for the
18	following purposes:
19	(a) grants for designated projects; and
20	(b) administrative expenses, including the salaries and expenses of personnel, equipment, office
21	space, and other expenses necessarily incurred in the administration of the grants program. These expenses
22	may be funded prior to funding of projects."
23	
24	NEW SECTION. Section 7. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 1997.
25	-END-



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