

HOUSE BILL NO. 18

INTRODUCED BY T. RUNNING WOLF

BY REQUEST OF THE STATE-TRIBAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MISSING PERSONS RESPONSE TEAM TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM; CREATING THE MISSING PERSONS RESPONSE TEAM TRAINING GRANT ACCOUNT; PROVIDING A FUND TRANSFER AND AN APPROPRIATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

**NEW SECTION. Section 1. Missing persons response team training grant program -- reporting.**

(1) There is a missing persons response team training grant program administered by the department of justice. The purpose of the grant program is to help fund training opportunities for community-based missing persons response teams.

(2) Eligible teams may be multiagency and multijurisdictional and may include other community entities and volunteers. Eligible teams shall:

(a) establish memorandums of understanding between the involved entities;

(b) develop operational procedures and criteria under which a team activation can occur; and

(c) participate in a community action planning effort conducted in accordance with department guidelines.

(3) Eligible training expenses include but are not limited to the licensing costs of a training program, facilitator and conference location fees, and travel expenses for training staff and trainees.

(4) The department shall report, in accordance with 5-11-210, on the grants awarded pursuant to this section to the state-tribal relations committee provided for in 5-5-229 by July 1 prior to each regular legislative session.

**NEW SECTION. Section 2. Missing persons response team training grant account.** (1) There is

1 a missing persons response team training grant account in the state special revenue fund established in 17-2-  
2 102. The account is administered by the department of justice.

3 (2) Money transferred from any lawful source, including but not limited to gifts, grants, donations,  
4 securities, and other assets, public or private, may be deposited in the account.

5 (3) Money deposited in the account must be used pursuant to [section 1].

6 (4) Up to 10% of the funds deposited in the missing persons response team training grant account  
7 each year may be used for administrative costs by the department.

8 (5) Interest and income earned on the account and any unspent or unencumbered money in the  
9 account at the end of a fiscal year must remain in the account.

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11 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Transfer of funds.** By July 15, 2023, the state treasurer shall transfer  
12 \$61,000 from the state general fund to the missing persons response team training grant account established in  
13 [section 2].

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15 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Appropriation.** For the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, there is  
16 appropriated \$61,000 from the missing persons response team training grant account established in [section 2]  
17 to the department of justice for the purposes described in [section 1].

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19 **NEW SECTION. Section 5. Notification to tribal governments -- COUNTY SHERIFFS.** The secretary  
20 of state shall send a copy of [this act] to each federally recognized tribal government in Montana AND TO THE  
21 SHERIFF OF EACH COUNTY IN MONTANA.

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23 **NEW SECTION. Section 6. Codification instruction.** [Sections 1 and 2] are intended to be codified  
24 as an integral part of Title 44, chapter 2, part 4, and the provisions of Title 44, chapter 2, part 4, apply to  
25 [sections 1 through 2].

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27 **NEW SECTION. Section 7. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2023.

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