

SENATE BILL NO. 14

INTRODUCED BY J. COHENOUR

BY REQUEST OF THE STATE-TRIBAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAMS; REVISING THE AMOUNT OF TIME A PROGRAM MUST PROVIDE INSTRUCTION IN INDIAN LANGUAGE; AMENDING SECTION 20-7-1403, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

Section 1. Section 20-7-1403, MCA, is amended to read:

"20-7-1403. (Temporary) Definitions. As used in this part, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Eligible district" means a school district encompassing or adjacent to an Indian reservation or a school district that includes one or more schools with an Indian population of 10% or greater.

(2) "Immersion program" means a program of an eligible district in which:

(a) all participating students receive content area instruction in an Indian language ~~at least 50% of the day;~~

(i) at least 30% of the day in the first year of the program;

(ii) at least 40% of the day in the second year of the program; and

(iii) at least 50% of the day in third and subsequent years of the program;

(b) teachers are fully proficient in the languages they use for instruction; and

(c) the goal of the program is perpetuating cultural integrity and promoting bilingualism and biliteracy.

(3) "Indian language" means any of the languages of the tribes located on the seven Montana reservations and the Little Shell Chippewa tribe. (Terminates June 30, 2019--sec. 10, Ch. 442, L. 2015.)"

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Notification to tribal governments.** The secretary of state shall send a copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the seven Montana reservations and to the Little Shell Chippewa tribe.



