

YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

Senate Bill Number 117

Legislative Action:

House Committee: _____

Introduced by: Sophie Mumford

House: _____

Authored by: Sophie Mumford

Senate Committee: _____

Senate: _____

Delegation: Bozeman

Governor: _____

Referred to Committee: Senate Business & Taxation Committee

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REDUCE FINANCIAL BURDENS FOR
2 LONG-TIME LAND OWNERS IN MONTANA "

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4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE MONTANA YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

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6 **Section 1: Intent** The intent of this bill is to reduce the financial burdens caused by large
7 taxes rates imposed on the land owners in the state of Montana. This bill will help to alleviate
8 some of this financial burden by reducing taxes on land owners in the state who have owned land
9 for over twenty five years.

10
11 **Section 2: Action** Upon passage of this bill, landowners in the state of Montana who
12 have :
13 A. Owned a house section of land greater than one half acre for twenty five years or longer,
14 or
15 B. Inherited their house or land, that is greater than one half acre, from immediate family,
16 which has been cumulatively owned by the family for over twenty five years,
17 Will be eligible for tax reductions after ownership exceeds twenty five years.

18 1. Immediate Family is defined as ones mother, father, brother or sister.
19 C. Landowners reaching twenty five years owning one property or house on land greater
20 than one half acre will be eligible for the following tax relief:
21 1. After twenty five years of owning property, the landowner's property and housing
22 taxes will no longer rise annually. For five years after owning property or a house
23 for twenty five years, the owner will pay the same amount of taxes as paid in the
24 twenty fifth year.
25 2. Every five years following this tax alleviation, the landowner's taxes will increase
26 two (2) percent. Their taxes will increase in this fashion every five years until the
27 property changes ownership.
28 3. Upon the changing of ownership of the land, the new owners will not be eligible
29 for this tax relief until they own the property for twenty five years.

30 **Section 3: Funding** If needed, funds will come from the General Fund. The money that
31 would have been collected from the landowners defined under this bill will be generated in equal

32 or exceeding previous cumulative tax payments from the new residents of the state and those
33 land and house owners not defined under this bill.

34 **Section 4: Effective Date** This bill will be enacted at the beginning of the next fiscal
35 year.

36 **-end-**