YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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_____Bill Number_____

Introduced by: Drew Dokken
Authored by: Drew Dokken

Delegation: Bozeman

Legislative Action:
House Committee: _____
House: _____
Senate Committee: _____
Senate: _____
Governor: _____

Referred to Committee: _____

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO CREATE AN INCENTIVE FROM HOMESTEADING EASTERN MONTANA"

BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2009 MONTANA YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

Section 1. This bill will give away plots of state land to all those who want to homestead and live in Eastern Montana. Eastern Montana will be defined as all the land east of Billings as this is the traditional definition. When using this definition, the largest city in Eastern Montana is Miles City, a town with less than 10,000 people. The second largest city is Forsyth, which according to the 2100 census had less than 3,000 people. Eastern Montana is experiencing a terrible brain drain as the population is moving to other states or larger towns in western Montana. Giving out pockets of land would no doubt attract people who would create economic vibrance in the state such as Hispanic field labors in states such as California and New Mexico, or other traditional Mid Western immigrant populations such as Hmong and Somalians who would have more opportunity and freedom in living in Eastern Montana.

Section 2. The State of Montana would offer to give out 10 acre plots of land to people interested in living outside Miles City and Forsyth and 5,000 acres to those who wanted to create ranching or farming operations in more rural areas. The bill will have an experimental phase with a temporary cap after sixty families. Its effectiveness would then be revised and continued after a thorough cost benefit analysis.

Section 3. Act requires no funding

Section 4. This act will become effective upon passage.

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