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MONTANA LAND INFORMATION ACT FUNDING

It is the intent of the Montana Association of Counties to modify the funding formula within the Montana Land Information Act to ensure that a fixed percentage of the funds collected and sent to the state under that program are allocated for use by local and tribal governments.

WHEREAS, since the adoption of the Montana Land Information Act in 2005, questions have continuously arisen about the appropriate usage of funds collected as a result of the Act; and

WHEREAS, the amount of funding now directly allocated to state level-programs without going through the grant process exceeds two-thirds of the state collections; and

WHEREAS, MACo has consistently maintained that the intent of the original act was to provide better funding opportunities to all governmental levels for GIS enhancement; and

WHEREAS, the current funding process utilized by the State does not ensure any level of funding to local or tribal governments; and

WHEREAS, the current funding allocation methodology is not deemed to be adequately meeting the GIS needs of local government.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, section 90-1-410 (2) should be amended to reflect that fifty percent (50%) of funds collected in the fund as described in 7-4-2637 (20(iii)) shall be reserved for local and tribal government sponsored grants as described in 90-1-404.

SPONSOR:	MACo Districts 8, 9 & 12
RECOMMENDATION:	Do Pass as Amended
REFERRED TO:	MACo Information Technology Committee
ADOPTED:	Annual Conference, Great Falls, MT, September 26, 2012