

\*\*\*\* Bill No. \*\*\*\*  
Introduced By \*\*\*\*\*  
By Request of the \*\*\*\*\*

A Bill for an Act entitled: "An Act appropriating funds for a study of the office of state public defender and attorney workloads; requiring the study be performed by an independent third party; setting parameters of the study; and requiring reporting of the study's findings to the law and justice interim committee."

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Montana:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Appropriation.** In the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, there is appropriated up to \$ XXX from the general fund to the department of administration for the office of state public defender to provide funding for a study to be performed by an independent third party of the office of state public defender as set forth in [section x].

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Scope of study.**

(1) As a part of the study authorized in [section 1], the independent party will examine workloads and workload standards for the office's staff attorneys.

(2) The party will examine the office's case weighting system and assist the office in developing a more accurate case weighting system

for the office of state public defender.

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Reporting of findings.** The report will be made available publicly in an electronic format and shall be presented by the office of state public defender to the law and justice interim committee by May 15, 2018.

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