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Montana Bar Association to provide financial assistance to MSU Law School Foundation

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FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

Aspirants to a law degree at Montana State University were extended a helping hand by Montana lawyers in action taken at the meeting of the Montana Bar Association in Billings this month, Dean Robert E. Sullivan reported.

The association adopted a resolution authorizing the executive committee of the MBA to contract with the New York Life Insurance Co. for a group life insurance plan for association members, with a provision for payment of any return of premium or dividends to the MSU Law School Foundation for the financial assistance of law students enrolled at the University.

For the plan to become effective, 200 lawyers must enroll, according to Dean Sullivan. The MBA membership will be solicited by the New York Life Insurance Co. in the fall of 1960, he said.

The premium for the reducing-term coverage offered will be $30 a year, the dean said. The amount of coverage will gradually decrease as the age of the insured increases, he explained. For example, at age 25 the insured would receive $10,500 worth of insurance; at age 60, $1,050; at age 70, $500. The policy would terminate on the holder's 71st birthday.

Commenting on the provision for deposit in the Law School Foundation fund of any return of premium or dividends, Dean Sullivan said, "This fund would fill the void that exists in providing adequate financial assistance to students who would otherwise be unable to attend law school."

Financial aid now available to MSU law students includes six Neil S. Wilson Scholarships and the Burton K. Wheeler Memorial Scholarship, amounting to about $200 a year each, Dean Sullivan noted. The increase in scholarship aid in recent years is of course helpful, but it is not keeping pace with the need, he said.

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