

STATE OF MONTANA

REQUEST NO. 520-77

FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received February 15, 19 77, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for HJR 66 pursuant to Chapter 53, Laws of Montana, 1965 - Thirty-Ninth Legislative Assembly. Background information used in developing this Fiscal Note is available from the Office of Budget and Program Planning, to members of the Legislature upon request.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

Provides for expending all assistance possible under existing law to victims of catastrophic illness and directs the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services to conduct a feasibility study for a catastrophic illness insurance program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The feasibility study can be accomplished within existing departmental resources; however, if the Medically Needy Children provision is funded, additional costs are \$150,000 in FY78 and \$173,250 in FY79, 38% of which cost must be funded with state general fund monies (see technical note).

TECHNICAL NOTE:

Under existing statutes the Department is required to provide services to all Medically Needy Children; however, funding has never been appropriated for this service, nor does the current budget request include funds for this service.

Richard L. Drayton

BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

Date: 2-21-77

Approved by Committee
on Public Health, Welfare
& Safety

House JOINT RESOLUTION NO. *66*

INTRODUCED BY *Menaker - Committee Bill -*
Public Health -

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
2 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA DIRECTING THAT ALL
3 POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE UNDER EXISTING LAW BE PROVIDED TO
4 VICTIMS OF CATASTROPHIC ILLNESS AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF
5 SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF
6 A MONTANA CATASTROPHIC ILLNESS INSURANCE PROGRAM.

7 WHEREAS, severe medical illness or disability strikes
8 without regard to the economic status of the persons
9 stricken or their families; and

10 WHEREAS, some persons are not eligible for or covered
11 by private or public health insurance programs; and

12 WHEREAS, public and private health insurance programs
13 generally impose limitations on coverage; and

14 WHEREAS, persons stricken with severe medical illness
15 or disability often face financial disaster because of the
16 lack of or the limitations on comprehensive health
17 insurance.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE
19 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

20 (1) That the Department of Social and Rehabilitation

SECOND READING

1 Services shall vigorously explore and provide all possible
2 assistance authorized by existing law and available within
3 existing appropriations for families stricken with
4 catastrophic illness in an effort to alleviate the financial
5 and medical burdens of those families;

6 (2) That the Department of Social and Rehabilitation
7 Services shall study the feasibility of a catastrophic
8 illness insurance program for all citizens of the State of
9 Montana and report the findings of the study to the 46th
10 Legislature.

-End-

HSR66

1 ~~House~~ JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 66
 2 INTRODUCED BY Monahan - Committee Bill -
 3 Public Health -

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THIRD READING

HR 66

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 66
2 INTRODUCED BY MENAHAN (Committee Bill)
3 Public Health
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