

AUG 5 1993

**State of Montana** OF MONTANA  
**Office of the Governor**



**Executive Order No. 12-93**

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**EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING THE GOVERNOR'S  
WELFARE REFORM ADVISORY COUNCIL**

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11 WHEREAS, an increasing number of Montanans are living in  
12 poverty; and

13 WHEREAS, children and families headed by single women  
14 experience the highest rate of poverty; and

15 WHEREAS, births to unmarried teen parents continue to  
16 increase; and

17 WHEREAS, the current welfare system has become inefficient,  
18 organizationally fragmented and bureaucratically entrenched; and

19 WHEREAS, the current welfare system incurs excessive  
20 administrative costs at the expense of services to recipients; and

21 WHEREAS, the increasing costs of the federal welfare  
22 entitlement programs are exceeding the available state funding; and

23 WHEREAS, the current welfare system offers only limited  
24 support or incentives for recipients to become independent of  
25 welfare assistance; and

26 WHEREAS, the current welfare system often humiliates and  
27 stigmatizes clients; and

28 WHEREAS, the current welfare system isolates recipients from

1 the economic and social mainstream; and

2 WHEREAS, the current welfare system fails to foster  
3 fundamental American values relating to work, family, individual  
4 responsibility and self-sufficiency; and

5 WHEREAS, recipients of welfare assistance are not a  
6 homogeneous group but represent a population that is diverse both  
7 in terms of situational characteristics and personal attributes;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, House Bill 2, passed by the 53rd Montana Legislature,  
10 directs the Montana Department of Social and Rehabilitation  
11 Services to request waivers of federal requirements for welfare  
12 assistance programs as necessary for the redesign of those programs  
13 in a cost-neutral manner.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, I MARC RACICOT, Governor of the State of  
15 Montana, by virtue of the authority vested in me by 2-15-122, MCA,  
16 do hereby create the Governor's Welfare Reform Advisory Council.

17 I. PURPOSE

18 A. The Welfare Reform Advisory Council will:

- 19 1. Examine and identify the circumstances that result  
20 in people living in poverty and needing welfare  
21 assistance;
- 22 2. identify the aspects of the present welfare programs  
23 that help or hinder the ability of recipients to become  
24 independent from welfare assistance;
- 25 3. explore alternatives to the current welfare programs  
26 through an in-depth review of current theories of welfare  
27 and of the various welfare reform efforts nationally; and
- 28 4. develop a comprehensive welfare reform proposal that

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lients and provide the  
will meet the basic needs of each recipient's  
resources to achieve independence of the welfare  
open system.

B. In performing the duties listed in I. A., above, the  
Advisory Council will give special consideration to the  
following:

1. development of social contracts with recipients for  
the provision of benefits in return for completing  
specific activities that foster the independence of  
recipients from the welfare system;
2. provision of time-limited benefits coupled with  
community service work;
3. development of a universal means test for all  
programs;
4. enhancement of work incentives and removal of work  
disincentives within the system;
5. elimination of the deprivation requirement in order  
to strengthen and support families;
6. provision of cash instead of Food Stamps;
7. utilization of electronic benefit transfer for all  
benefits; and
8. specific provisions contained in House Bill 2.

25 II. COMPOSITION

26 A. The Welfare Reform Advisory Council will be composed of  
27 23 members. In addition, there will be 6 ex-officio  
28 members. The names and addresses of members who will be

1 appointed by the Director of the Department of Social and  
2 Rehabilitation Services and who will serve at the  
3 pleasure of the Governor, are submitted by separate  
4 letter to the Secretary of State, the Department of  
5 Social and Rehabilitation Services, Commerce, Family  
6 Services, and Labor and Industry, and the Legislative  
7 Council and the Office of Public Instruction.

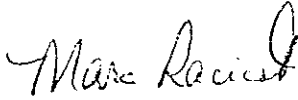
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9 III. COMPENSATION

10 Compensation will be paid in accordance with section 2-15-122,  
11 MCA.

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13 IV. DURATION

14 This Advisory Council will remain in existence for a period of  
15 two years unless extended by subsequent Executive Order. This  
16 Order is effective immediately.

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18 GIVEN under my hand and the  
19 GREAT SEAL of the State of  
20 Montana, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of  
July in the  
21 year of our LORD, One Thousand,  
Nine Hundred and Ninety-Three.

22   
23 MARC RACICOT, Governor

24 ATTEST:

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26 MIKE COONEY, Secretary of State

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