

MONTANA STATE SENATE
PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE & SAFETY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING

June 27, 1986

The first meeting of the Senate Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee for the Third Special Session, 49th Legislature, was called to order at 1:15 P.M. on June 27, 1986, by Chairman Judy Jacobson in Room 325 of the Capitol Building.

ROLL CALL: All committee members were present.

CONSIDERATION OF HB 40: Representative Cobb, House District 42, presented this bill to the committee. He said this bill is designed to allow the departments of Social and Rehabilitation Services, Health and Environmental Sciences, Labor and Industry and Institutions to identify any duplication of services and then to consolidate any duplication of services. This bill would also provide for a survey of employees to identify duplicative services. He said this bill asks for a report of employee recommendations and the directors response by December 1, 1986 for review by the next legislature.

PROPONENTS: David Lewis, Director, Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, gave testimony in support of this bill. He said he has discussed this bill with the other directors involved and we all feel that it is time to take another look at services within the agencies. He said we have been doing some things informally and we will be happy to comply with the provisions of this bill.

OPPONENTS: None.

QUESTIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE: Senator Hims1 asked David Lewis if they anticipated that this could be done without additional staff.

Dave Lewis said the directors feel the cost could be absorbed within the agencies involved.

Senator Towe said section 3 refers to a survey of employees which is done by the different directors of the departments listed in the bill. He asked Representative Cobb if they were going to do this within their existing budget.

Representative Cobb said he has talked with the directors and they had no problem with doing that. He referred to

the bottom of page 3 and top of page 4, which allows the directors to conduct the survey using established means of intradepartmental communication so as to avoid any excessive or unnecessary cost to the departments.

Senator Towe asked Mr. Davis if he had any trouble with the idea of doing this report for \$390.00 as is indicated in the fiscal note.

Mr. Davis said he did not believe there would be that much of a problem. It would have to come out of our existing staff time but he feels it can be absorbed within the budget.

Senator Jacobson noted that the \$390.00 referred to in the fiscal note was for printing and mailing costs.

Hearing closed on HB 40.

ACTION ON HB 40: Senator Towe moved that HB 40 BE CONCURRED IN. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF HB 33: Representative Hand, House District 73, presented this bill to the committee. He said this bill would limit the duration of assistance provided to able bodied persons, limit the amount of monthly general assistance and revise income eligibility standards for general relief medical assistance. He requested Dave Lewis, Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, to explain the need for this bill.

Dave Lewis, Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, gave testimony in support of this bill. See attached Exhibit 1.

Russ Cater, Chief Legal Counsel, Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, gave testimony in support of this bill. See attached Exhibit 2. He also furnished the committee with booklets entitled Employee Benefit Plan, Helena School District No. 1; State of Montana, Employee Benefits Plan; and the Blue Shield Security Economy Plan. These items are attached as Exhibit 3.

Lorna Frank, Montana Farm Bureau, stated they are in support of this proposal and recommend a do pass.

OPPONENTS: Robert Montgomery, Montana Low Income Coalition, gave testimony in opposition to this bill. His testimony is attached as Exhibit 4.

Judith Carlson, Montana Association of Social Workers, gave testimony in opposition to this bill. She stated that HB 33 is not a good social policy and would urge defeat of this legislation. Presently the existing law does require recipients of general assistance, who are able to work, to work. If they are not working it is because the county has not provided jobs for them to do. They are presently required to search for jobs and to take the jobs that are offered. She wonders how much money will be saved on this.

Mignon Waterman, Montana Association of Churches, gave testimony in opposition to this bill. Her testimony is attached as Exhibit 5.

John Ortwein, Montana Catholic Conference, gave testimony in opposition to this bill. His testimony is attached as Exhibit 6.

Deborah Florer, Butte Community Union, rose in opposition to this bill.

QUESTIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE: Senator Towe asked Russ Cater to explain this matter of the medical benefits under the constitution and the Supreme Court case. He does not understand what the Supreme Court did and what we can do.

Russ Cater said since 1975 there has been a statute in Montana which limited people who are eligible for state medical assistance to those people who have incomes less than 300% of the level that would normally be provided to people on general assistance. The normal income given to people in the state on benefits is \$212. Therefore, if they had incomes over \$636 they would not be eligible. That is the maximum amount that the statute allows. During the last session of the legislature, rather than relying upon that 300% limit, the legislature placed a specific dollar amount in the law and that dollar amount was within a few dollars of the 100% level of the general assistance level. That was true except for a single person household. Rather than \$212 it was \$334 to be eligible for medical assistance. He referred to Exhibit 2, which has a three page analysis of insurance policies. He said what we did was we went around and looked at insurance policies and found out what it would cost someone to purchase insurance. We added on the monthly premium, plus we annualized the deductible and that was the cost we came up with. We then added that to the general assistance amount. The Supreme Court, in its decision, indicated that insurance was a factor that the state could take into consideration

and if we added that onto the general assistance benefit there was a strong indication the Supreme Court thought that would be constitutional. The Supreme Court did rule that the 300% clearly was constitutional.

Senator Towe said the figures that we see in the bill, on page 10 of the bill, you are taking an average of those three insurance companies.

Mr. Cater said no, we took the third example because we thought it would be readily available to anyone throughout the state. However, it wasn't much different than the other plans.

Senator Towe said so what this reads is their general assistance plus the amount listed on page 10, which is taking the Bank Depositor's Plan figures and that is what the minimum income level is for disqualification.

Mr. Cater agreed.

Senator Lynch said if an individual is completely following the rules, gone through the job search, gone to the job service every day and has gone through and followed the process, he has 60 days and then is finished from general assistance. After that he has no means to eat. What are his options. Certainly the worst would be crime. Second he could find someone who had children and if he wanted to have children could get assistance. The worst could be to starve. He asked Dave Lewis to explain the options that would be available to that individual.

Dave Lewis said the individual would still be eligible for food stamps. They would still have state medical coverage if they have a serious medical problem. They would have access to subsidized housing, low income housing. They possibly may have to move in with friends or public shelters for short periods of time. You are absolutely right, they are on their own after 60 days. He mentioned that we recently had to allow alien Mexicans to take irrigating jobs. He thinks there is something missing in the program when we are not able to fill those kinds of jobs in the state.

Senator Lynch said on January 1st there will not be any irrigation jobs available.

Dave Lewis said he was just trying to use that as an example. Most Job Service Offices have several low paying jobs that they have trouble filling.

Senator Hims1 said if the income of a family of two is less than \$282 then that family will get general assistance for two months. Then on page 9 on medical assistance a family of two is eligible if their income is less than \$433. He asked Mr. Lewis to explain this.

Mr. Lewis said the state medical eligibility income level is higher than the one for general assistance. If they are on general assistance they are eligible for state medical but they can also get state medical if they make more than would make them eligible for general assistance.

Senator Stephens said he realizes these are difficult times but he thinks we should get to the point where there are some reasonable limits and this bill embodies that. He asked the representatives from the Catholic Church and Montana Association of Churches how far down they go to arrive at a consensus that forms the political position that they are taking.

John Ortwein said their political position is through the United States Catholic Conference and the United States Bishops.

Senator Stephens asked if that is necessarily a consensus within the Catholic Community within the state of Montana.

John Ortwein said it would be very hard to know on each issue the Catholics address just where each Catholic stands.

Mignon Waterman said the Montana Association of Churches represents 170,000 church members in the state of Montana and obviously we do not poll 170,000 members on each individual issue. She said the position that she lobbys requires a unanimous agreement of the general assembly which meet yearly and reach a consensus upon which she lobbys.

Senator Lynch said on the irrigators his information was that the requirements were so stringent in terms of experience, that the applicant must move and be experienced to move so much pipe per hour, that unless someone had done that for a long period of time they obviously could not meet those requirements. To say that people in Montana did not want the job was not true. In fact, they did not qualify because of the experience factor. He asked Dave Lewis to respond to this comment.

Dave Lewis said he thinks he was told that you had to be able to move 40 handline pipes per hour. He said it is hard to believe they would be so restrictive that no one could meet the requirement.

Senator Lynch asked Don Judge to respond to the same comment.

Don Judge said he had some involvement with this particular issue. He was contacted by a local union out of Texas which had received the job application for legal aliens and legal Hispanic workers to come up and apply for those jobs in Montana. They made the statement to me that the qualifications that were being mandated by the employers in the Dillon area were so stringent that they had very few farm workers that could qualify for those jobs. They were demanding a specific amount of experience before they would accept the applications and demanding a specific meeting of criteria for moving those pipes.

Representative Hand closed by stating he knows it is a distasteful task to harm those people who are down and out. He thinks the deficit from the general assistance program does require some control and this will allow that.

Hearing closed on HB 33.

ACTION ON HB 33: Senator Stephens would move that HB 33 BE CONCURRED IN. The motion carried, see attached roll call vote sheet.

Senator Towe made a substitute motion to strike on page 2, line 19, "2 months of"; to strike on page 4, lines 4-7 "Except as provided" through "household"; to strike on page 6 lines 9, 10, 11 and 12 in their entirety; and to strike on page 11 lines 13-20 in their entirety. He said this will simply remove the two month limit on general assistance.

Senator Stephens said he would resist that. Senator Towe has taken away the major component of the bill. He said to either vote it up or vote it down.

Senator Towe's motion failed with a vote of 3-4. See attached roll call vote sheet.

Senator Stephens' original motion carried with a vote of 4-3. See attached roll call vote sheet.

Public Health, Welfare & Safety Committee
June 27, 1986
Page Seven

There being no further business before the committee the meeting adjourned at 2:10 P.M.


SENATOR JUDY JACOBSON, CHAIRMAN

ah

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC HEALTH

COMMITTEE

49

48th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1986

Date 6-27-86

SENATE
SEAT

THIRD SPECIAL SESSION

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
HAGAR, Tom	✓		
HIMSL, Matt	✓		
NEUMAN, Ted	✓		
NORMAN, Bill	✓ left early		
STEPHENS, Stan	✓		
TOWE, Tom	✓		
LYNCH, J. D., V. Chrmn.	✓		
JACOBSON, Judy Chairman	✓		

Each day attach to minutes.

DATE 6-27-86

COMMITTEE ON Public Health, Welfare & Safety

VISITORS' REGISTER *HB 33 / HB 40*

[illegible]

(Please leave prepared statement with Secretary)

NAME: JUDITH H CARLSON DATE: 6/27/86

ADDRESS: 408 WASHINGTON DR HELENA

PHONE: 442-7462

REPRESENTING WHOM? NAT ASSN SOCIAL WORKERS MT. CENTER

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HB 33

DO YOU: SUPPORT? _____ AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? X

COMMENTS: _____

SRS ALREADY ^{DOES} REQUIRE RECIPIENTS
TO WORK. CUTTING PEOPLE OFF AFTER
2 MO. IS UNREALISTIC. WHAT IF THERE
ARE NO JOBS?

NOT NEEDED

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

Testimony on General Assistance Legislation

During the last regular session of the legislature HB 843 was passed limiting assistance to able-bodied persons under 50 years of age. Because of the age limitations in HB 843 the Montana Supreme Court subsequently determined that this law was unconstitutional. Despite this adverse ruling the department believes the legislature has the discretion to determine as expressed in Article XII of the Montana Constitution those "inhabitants who, by reason of age, infirmities, or misfortune may have need for the aid of society" The purpose statement in HB 843 (53-3-108(2)) indicates that able-bodied persons are not entitled to welfare assistance.

The essence of this legislation is to provide able-bodied individuals with sixty days of General Assistance per year in order for them to participate in the job training program and thereby further their employability. The effective date is November 1, 1986.

Our intent is to coordinate this program with job search program initiated in HB 12. Priority should be given to the employable people on GA and we will make every attempt to process these people within their sixty days of eligibility. This may not be possible in all communities.

The "infirm" or non able-bodied are those certified by a medical doctor to have a physical or mental problems which would keep them from being employed. Extreme alcohol or drug dependency could limit employability and make a person eligible for General Assistance.

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE
EXHIBIT NO. 1
DATE 06-27-86
BILL NO. H.B. 33

In the 1981-83 biennium the General Assistance program cost the state \$2,592,012. In the 1985-87 biennium the cost is estimated to be \$9,763,922. We cannot, in good conscience, continue to increase funding for General Assistance when this Department has waiting lists in our programs for the developmentally disabled, children, and physically disabled. I continue to believe that if the state has to set priorities, the childless, able-bodied General Assistance clients are the lowest priority."

Our previous efforts to eliminate aid to only the able-bodied under age 35 was found to be unconstitutional. In the March session we supported the effort to amend the constitution to provide the legislature with clear authority to define those persons who are in need of receiving assistance. Testimony during the hearings on the constitutional amendment and on the floor suggested that there should be some alternative, short of amending the constitution, to limit the costs of the General Assistance program. Slightly fewer than 2/3 of the legislature supported the constitutional amendment so we are returning with this bill.

If this legislation were to pass, it no doubt will be challenged in court. It is, of course, impossible to speculate as to what the court might rule. However, no piece of legislation is immune from challenge and is of course subject to judicial review.

I continue to believe that if the SRS budget must be reduced, the state must discontinue benefits to persons such as the able-bodied who are better able to care for their own basic needs.

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE
EXHIBIT NO. 1
DATE 06-27-86
BILL NO. H.B. 33

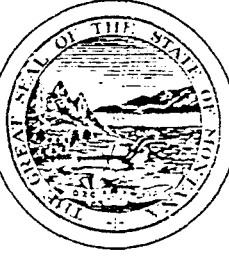
DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE

EXHIBIT NO. 2

DATE 06-27-86

BILL NO. H.B. 33



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

P.O. BOX 4210

STATE OF MONTANA

HELENA, MONTANA 59604

June 18, 1986

RECEIVED

JUN 18 1986

SEN
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

To: Dave Lewis
Director

From: Russ Cater
Chief Legal Counsel

CC

Re: General Assistance Legislation

The following is a section by section explanation of the changes this Department is proposing in the laws relating to general assistance:

(1) Section 1 amends 53-3-108(3), MCA. This amendment to the purpose statement of the law is a recognition by the legislature that able-bodied persons are not entitled to assistance but the legislature is willing to provide two months of general relief so that able-bodied persons may be able to expand their employment opportunities through participation in the Job Readiness Training Program authorized in 53-3-304(3).

(2) Section 2 amends 53-3-109, MCA, by striking in subsection (8) the former limitation with respect to age which was found unconstitutional by the Montana Supreme Court.

(3) Section 3 amends 53-3-205, MCA, changing the monthly income standard to coincide with the current standard for the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program. In addition, the monthly income standard or benefit level for fiscal year 1987 is being frozen at the 1986 rate. Subsection (3) is also being amended to eliminate the unconstitutional age restrictions.

(4) Section 4 amends Section 53-3-206(6)(b), MCA. This amendment increases the monthly income level for medical assistance. The changes are minor in amount and are being revised to be consistent with the Medicaid Medically Needy program.

(5) Section 5 amends 53-3-209(2), MCA. This section eliminates the unconstitutional age restrictions and further eliminates the 60 day waiting period before assistance is received.

Dave Lewis
June 18, 1986
Page 2

The main feature of this amendment is to limit general assistance for able-bodied persons without dependent minor children to two months within a 12 month period. Assistance received prior to November 1, 1986 will not be counted and therefore this provision in essence would not take affect until November 1. For those receiving assistance during November and December, 1986 their benefits will be terminated beginning January 1, 1987. This is undoubtedly the most controversial provision of the bill.

REC/rr

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE
EXHIBIT NO. 2
DATE 06-27-86
BILL NO. H.B. 33

House Bill 33

Department of Social & Rehabilitation Services

Exhibit in Support of Testimony Amending General Relief Medical
Monthly Income Table - Exhibit

The following are examples of medical insurance policies that the Department surveyed to establish a monthly income level for General Relief Medical.

Example 1: State of Montana, Employees Health Plan

Person

1	303.50
2	431.50
3	527.50
4	600.50
5	674.50
6	743.50
7	815.50
8	886.50
9	958.50
10	1,030.50
11	1,102.50
12	1,174.50
13	1,246.50
14	1,318.50
15	1,390.50
16	1,462.50

-
- deductible has been annualized and added into total (1 - \$150, 2 - \$300, 4 - \$450)
 - no dental/vision coverage
 - premium cost (employee - \$79, employee/spouse - \$100, employee/family - \$136)
 - pay 80% after deductible is met

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE

EXHIBIT NO. 2

DATE 06-27-86

BILL NO. H.B. 33

Example 2: Helena School District #1, (MPS/Blue Shield)

Person

1	314.70
2	470.46
3	558.46
4	630.46
5	705.46
6	774.46
7	846.46
8	917.46
9	989.46
10	1,061.46
11	1,133.46
12	1,205.46
13	1,277.46
14	1,349.46
15	1,421.46
16	1,493.46

-
- no deductibles
 - includes optical/dental
 - premium cost (employee - \$102.70, employee/spouse - \$188, teacher/spouse//family - \$204.46)
 - pay 100%

Example 3: Bank Depositor's Plan, (MPS/Blue Shield)

Person

1	287.40
2	432.81
3	525.51
4	618.21
5	713.91
6	803.61
7	896.31
8	988.01
9	1,080.71
10	1,173.41
11	1,194.11
12	1,214.81
13	1,235.51
14	1,256.21
15	1,276.91
16	1,297.61

- premium costs

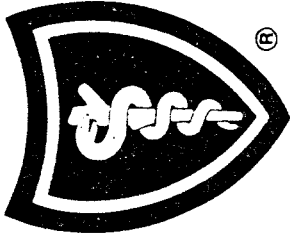
Years

25-29 - \$37.12	45-49 - \$55.76
30-34 - \$40.98	50-54 - \$60.38
35-38 - \$45.94	55-59 - \$67.98
40-44 - \$51.12	60+ - \$77.30

- \$20.70 for each additional child
- average premium cost used in totals - \$54.57
- deductible - (\$250 - single, \$500 - family)
- annualized deductible added to total (\$20.87 - single, \$41.67 - family)
- pays 70% after deductible is met
- no deductible for office calls
- no optical/dental

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE
EXHIBIT NO. 2
DATE 06-27-86
BILL NO. H.B. 33

These services are not covered:
The following conditions, services, treatments and procedures are excluded under your agreement:
Worker's Compensation cases; services provided by Federal or State law (including Medicare A and B and the Veterans' Administration); services payable under no-fault auto insurance; services required as a result of war; dental care except as specifically included; eyeglasses, radial keratotomy; hearing aids and related services; cosmetic and obesity surgery except as authorized in advance by Blue Shield; sex change operations; reverse sterilization; acupuncture; experimental surgery or medical care including experimental drugs and diets; alcoholism, drug addiction and mental conditions except as specifically included; convalescent or custodial care or rest cures; rehabilitation therapy including occupational, visual, speech or milieu therapy; doctor charges for routine physical exams, well baby care, circumcision and routine immunizations; services rendered by a member of the patient's immediate family; travel; routine foot care; unnecessary services; services or supplies for which the patient has no legal obligation to pay; and service or supplies not listed as a benefit of the agreement.



**MPS/Montana
Blue Shield**
404 Fuller, Box 4309
Helena, MT 59604
444-8200

SERVICE OFFICES

Billings	656-0505
Bozeman	586-6524
Butte	494-2488
Great Falls	452-5345
Havre	265-8212
Helena	444-8305
Kalispell	257-5070
Miles City	232-3224
Missoula	459-1893

The Security Economy Plan

COINSURANCE

The Plan pays 70% of the allowable charge; the member pays 30% and any amount over the allowable charge.

MAXIMUM MEMBER LIABILITY

When your 30% coinsurance payments reach your maximum member liability amount, Blue Shield will pay 100% of the allowable charge for the remainder of that year.

ALLOWABLE CHARGE

For physicians' services, the allowable charge is the prevailing fee or the actual charge of the doctor, whichever is less. The prevailing fee is an amount equal to at least 90% of the range of all charges submitted to Blue Shield by Montana doctors. We update annually.

For hospital and other services, the allowable charge is the usual and customary charge submitted.

For out of state charges, payment is based on the usual and customary charge in the state in which the service is provided.

OPTIONS

You have a choice of deductibles and maximum member liability; dues are correspondingly lower for higher member deductibles and higher maximum liability.

SERVICE OFFICES

Billings	656-0505
Bozeman	586-6524
Butte	494-2488
Great Falls	452-5345
Havre	265-8212
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Kalispell	257-5070
Miles City	232-3224
Missoula	459-1893

NO LIFETIME MAXIMUM

NO DEDUCTIBLE ON PHYSICIANS' SERVICES AND ACCIDENTS

EXTRA CATASTROPHIC

PROTECTION

NO CLAIM FORMS REQUIRED

WHO MAY APPLY

1. Anyone under the age of 65, who is not eligible under any Blue Shield Group Plan.
2. All unmarried dependent children under the age of 23 are eligible for dependent coverage.
3. Newborn infants of members are eligible for immediate coverage if you apply within 31 days of date of birth.

HEALTH STATEMENTS

A health statement must be submitted and accepted by Blue Shield for membership in this Plan.

DEPENDENT TRANSFER

Dependent children reaching age 23 or being married before age 23 may continue coverage by applying for individual membership. Credit for time covered under a family contract will be given toward waiting periods.

YOUR BENEFIT PAYMENTS

DEDUCTIBLE

The deductible is the amount you have to pay for covered services before Blue Shield makes payment.

The deductible DOES NOT APPLY TO:

- Physicians' Services
- Accident-Related Services
- Routine Nursery Care and Lifesaving Procedures for Newborns
- Outpatient Treatment for Chemical Dependency

The family deductible is twice the individual deductible. Once the family deductible is met, there will be no more deductible applied for any family member during that calendar year.

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE

EXHIBIT NO. 3

DATE 06-27-86

BILL NO. 33

PHYSICIANS' SERVICES — NO DEDUCTIBLE

HOME AND OFFICE CALLS

- For injury or illness
- Emergency services in office, home, or hospital

SURGICAL SERVICES - Surgeon and Assistant Surgeon

ANESTHESIA - For Physician other than the Surgeon

IN-HOSPITAL CALLS - One per day

OUTPATIENT MEDICAL BENEFITS - For treatment of active illness or injury

CONSULTATIONS

OBSTETRICAL

NEWBORN CARE

- Eligible for coverage from moment of birth

DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES

- X-Ray
- Lab
- Diagnostic medical procedures
- Diagnostic services for routine physicals

RADIATION / CHEMOTHERAPY

DENTAL SERVICES

- Services of a dentist or oral surgeon are covered if payment would have been made if performed by a physician; i.e., oral surgery.
- Services by dentists and denturists for repair or replacement of sound natural teeth which are damaged as result of an accident. The accident must have occurred while you were covered by Blue Shield and were continuously covered from the accident to the date of service.

HOSPITAL AND OTHER COVERED SERVICES — Subject to Deductible

HOSPITAL SERVICES

- 365 days room & board
- Special care units
- Hospital Ancillary Services
 - Lab
 - Anesthesia
 - X-Ray
 - Oxygen
 - Casts / splints
 - Drugs & medicine
 - EKG
 - Physical Therapy
- Operating Room
- Cystoscopic Room
- Dressings
- IV feedings

HUMAN ORGAN TRANSPLANTS

Blue Shield covers hospital and physician's charges for human organ and tissue transplants:

- Cornea
- Heart
- Heart-Lung
- Kidney
- Liver

Subject to the following conditions:

1. When recipient and donor are Members, both receive benefits.
2. When the recipient is a Member and donor is not — both receive benefits to the extent that benefits to the donor are not provided under other hospital coverage.
3. The donor is a Member and recipient is not — the donor will receive benefits to the extent that benefits are not provided the donor by hospital coverage of the recipient.

OBSTETRICAL

Payable in same manner as illness

NURSERY CARE

- While mother is hospitalized as a result of birth
- Lifesaving procedures
- NO DEDUCTIBLE

OUTPATIENT

- For accidental injury - NO DEDUCTIBLE
- Sudden illness
- Surgery
- Radiation Therapy

OUTPATIENT DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES

- X-Ray
 - Lab and tissue exams
 - Medical diagnostic procedures (e.g., EKG, EEG)
- Must be ordered by physician and be necessary for investigation of illness or injury. No deductible for accident related services.

OTHER SERVICES

Blood Transfusions
Drugs & medicines requiring a prescription (except those for birth control).

Special Duty Registered Nurse — As Inpatient

- The nurse may not be a member of your family or an employee of the hospital.

Equipment Rental — To Maximum of Purchase Price

- Needed in home for therapeutic purposes to treat specific medical condition
- Withstand repeated use

- Primarily used to serve a medical purpose
- Ordered by a physician
- Generally not useful to a person not ill or injured
- If not available to rent, Blue Shield may approve monthly payments toward purchase.

Medical Supplies for Outside Hospital

- Catheters
- Colostomy supplies
- Dialysis
- Syringes
- Test tape

ambulance — To nearest hospital with appropriate facilities

Prosthetic Appliances

Oxygen and Equipment

Physical Therapist

Mental Illness and Chemical Dependency

Outpatient: NO DEDUCTIBLE

Mental Illness — Physicians' and psychologists' charges for necessary services. Maximum of \$1,000 per year.

Chemical Dependency (Alcoholism and Drug Dependency)

1. Professional calls by a physician
 2. Chemical Dependency Treatment Center
- Maximum of \$1,000 per year and \$10,000 per lifetime for professional and facility combined outpatient benefits.

Inpatient:

Mental Illness

1. Physicians' services — 30 days per year
2. Hospital services — 30 days per year

Chemical Dependency (Alcoholism and Drug Dependency)

1. One hospital visit per day by physician while confined as inpatient for detoxification. Maximum 30 days per year.
2. Hospital services for detoxification. Maximum 30 days per year.

WORLDWIDE COVERAGE — BLUE SHIELD COVERS YOU EVERYWHERE

Blue Shield members are protected around the world for use of services of a licensed doctor of medicine and licensed hospitals.

CLAIMS SERVICE — HOW TO USE YOUR PLAN

For physicians' services simply present your Blue Shield membership card. Professional Member will bill Blue Shield. Any non-member doctor of medicine may also bill Blue Shield or he may bill you, in which case you will be reimbursed at 70% of the allowable charge.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG SUBMISSION

You must submit your own claims for prescription drugs. All Blue Shield District Offices and many pharmacies have the drug filing forms.

TRANSFERS

Members leaving Montana may transfer their membership to any one of the Blue Shield Plans which operate in the United States, its possessions and Canada, without loss of continuity for time spent as a member of Montana Blue Shield.

COORDINATION OF BENEFITS

In the event a member is entitled to benefits under another plan (group, blanket, or franchise) which duplicates the benefits of Blue Shield, Blue Shield benefits will be coordinated with those of the other plan. We do this to assure that you receive proper payment for the benefits of both plans, up to the actual covered services, but not beyond the actual cost of those services.

WAITING PERIODS

Blue Shield will not pay for benefits for treatment of any condition you had before your effective date of coverage until you have been continuously covered by Blue Shield for twelve months. This waiting period does not apply to newborns.

BENEFITS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED FOR CERTAIN CONDITIONS WHICH DID NOT EXIST ON OR BEFORE YOUR EFFECTIVE DATE UNTIL YOU HAVE BEEN CONTINUOUSLY COVERED FOR SIX MONTHS: Congenital conditions, heart conditions, malignant conditions, cataracts, tonsillitis, cholecystitis, hernia, hemorrhoids, prostatic hypertrophy, complications of pregnancy, diseases and injuries of the female generative tract, tonsillectomy, adenoidectomy, colporrhaphy, perineorrhaphy, salpingectomy, oophorectomy, hysterectomy, cholecystectomy, herniorrhaphy, hemorrhoidectomy, prostatectomy, durable medical equipment and prosthetic devices.

Blue Shield will pay for services required by pregnancy or miscarriage only if conception occurred while the member is covered by a Blue Shield health plan. The waiting periods do not apply to ectopic pregnancies.

BLUE SHIELD 65

When you reach age 65 you are eligible to join our Blue Shield 65 Program. We will notify you of the change in advance of your 65th birthday.

Employee Benefit Plan

Helena School District
No. 1

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE

EXHIBIT NO. 3

DATE 06-27-86

BILL NO. H.B. 33

State of Montana

Employee Benefits Plan



EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 1985

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE

EXHIBIT NO. 3

DATE 06-27-86

BILL NO. H.B. 33

MADAK?

~~Dr.~~ Chairman, members of the committee my name is Robert Montgomery. I represent the Montana Low Income Coalition.

We're concerned about the recent proposals to drop ablebodied individuals from General Assistance. This testimony is not new but the situation hasn't changed and peoples lives are still threatened by this cut off so we feel it must be said again.

General Assistance has a direct effect on local economy.

All GA monies go immediately into the main stream.

Rent monies pay property taxes for the owners.

Counties benefit from the sound Workfare program we have had here in Montana. One that could be a model for other states that have used it poorly.

Butte/SilverBow and Deer Lodge counties economies are greatly impacted by assistance payments.

Dept. of Labor figures show that 75% of those receiving GA are on Workfare.

There is a myth that there is a pool of 'abledbodied' young males who are unwilling to work and are content with the grant from the State. In fact a single person receives \$212 a month plus \$80 in Food Stamps and the Workfare program shows that people want to work for a wage.

Assistance grants require an individual to divulge facts that are not ordinarily shared with others. It is a demeaning situation and causes a loss of self esteem. A situation one would not willing under go.

Loss of GA will have a ripple effect in communities.

Homelessness. People do not disappear because they receive no assistance.

Increased cost in emergency health care. Depression and subminimal nutrition will create problems that counties will find expensive.

Increased costs for Law Inforcement. Hungery, desperate people will be forced into actions that they would not ordinarily consider.

Funds expended through piecemeal measures necessary to deal with homelessness will be less administrateable than are small monthly grants.

We feel it is imperative that the percentage of poverty level not be reduced. Living at 53% below the level of poverty is as minimal a survival level that can sustain life.

The MLIC appreciates the difficult position the members of this committee are in and that the State of Montana is in a financial crisis that must be addressed both in the short and the long term. The cuts necessary to correct our problems mean that social programs and our education system will be reduced to a level comparable to that of 50 years ago. We feel that Montana really does not want this to happen and that it is time to begin to look at other solutions. An equitable tax program that assures that all Montana citizens

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE

EXHIBIT NO. 4

DATE 06-27-86

BILL NO. H.B. 33

share the burden of government is necessary. We can begin with closing existing loopholes that free some from any responsibility to our state. Capping the amount of federal deduction allowed on state taxes is one such measure. There are short term, one shot proposals that will help the immediate need that should be implemented such as changing the reporting period for withholding taxes. A courageous approach must be taken by this legislative body to save our state and its citizens.

Testimony of Robert Montgomery for Montana Low Income Coalition.

June ~~26~~, 1986

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SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE

EXHIBIT NO. 4

DATE 06-27-86

BILL NO. H.B. 33

Montana
Association of
Churches

MONTANA RELIGIOUS LEGISLATIVE COALITION • P.O. Box 745 • Helena, MT 59624

June 23, 1986

WORKING TOGETHER: Testimony of House Bill 33

American Baptist Churches
of the Northwest

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am Mignon Waterman of Helena and I represent the Montana Association of Churches.

American Lutheran Church
Rocky Mountain District

We laud the job readiness training program for able-bodied persons and we believe it should be given a fair chance to work. Given the economic projections for the coming year, we are concerned that there may not be jobs for all Montanans seeking employment. Therefore we fear the 60 day limit for general assistance may eliminate a vital safety net for hundreds of the most needy. A trained person who cannot find a job brings home no more money to feed and shelter his or her family than an untrained person who cannot find a job.

Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
in Montana

As legislators, you face many difficult tasks during this special session but they all pale when compared to the question before this committee. You must address the most basic issues of providing the fundamental needs of food, clothing, shelter, and medical care for Montana's most needy.

Episcopal Church
Diocese of Montana

Lutheran Church
in America
Pacific Northwest Synod

Roman Catholic Diocese
of Great Falls-Billings

The Montana Association of Churches supports the funding of social services so as "to provide the necessities of life compatible with decency and health."

Roman Catholic Diocese
of Helena

United Church
of Christ
MT-N.WY. Conference

United Methodist Church
Yellowstone Conference

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Glacier Presbytery

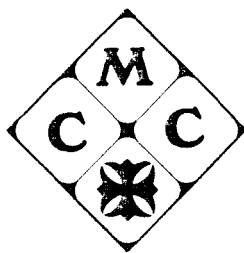
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Yellowstone Presbytery

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE

EXHIBIT NO. 5

DATE 06-27-86

BILL NO. H.B. 33



Montana Catholic Conference

June 27, 1986

CHAIRMAN JACOBSON AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

I am John Ortwein representing the Montana Catholic Conference.

During the March special legislative session, House Bill 12 was passed to formulate a structured job search, training and work program. It is our belief that House Bill 12 should be given a chance to work before removing persons from the benefits necessary for life.

This past Thursday I received a phone call from a young man from Glendive. He was here in Helena looking for work. He had worked with an oil company in Glendive for the past six years and was terminated on April 22, 1986.

Since that time he has been to Colstrip, Billings, Butte, Helena, and Conrad in search of work. Although most of his experience has been in the oil fields he is an extremely hard worker and would take any available job. He has not even had a lead up to this point.

House Bill 33 would remove persons from benefits after they have gone through the training program and have received two months benefites. Again, two months may not be adequate time to find a job in Montana.

It is for this reason the Montana Catholic Conference is in opposition to House Bill 33.

SENATE HEALTH & WELFARE

EXHIBIT NO. 6

DATE 06-27-86

BILL NO. H.B. 33



ROLL CALL VOTE

SENATE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE & SAFETY

Date June 27, 1986 Bill No. HB 33 Time 2:05P.M.

NAME	YES	NO
Senator Neuman		✓
Senator Hager		✓
Senator Himsl		✓
Senator Norman	ABSENT	
Senator Stephens		✓
Senator Towe	✓	
Senator Lynch, Vice-Chairman	✓	
Senator Jacobson, Chairman	✓	

Aggie Hamilton
Secretary

Senator Jacobson
Chairman

Motion: Senator Towe's substitute motion.

Motion failed 3-4.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

June 27

1986

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on **PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY**

having had under consideration **HOUSE BILL** No. **40**

third reading copy (**blue**)

(Senator Jacobson will carry)^{color}

**CONSOLIDATING DUPLICATIVE SOCIAL AND HEALTH
SERVICES; SURVEY OF EMPLOYEES**

Respectfully report as follows: That **HOUSE BILL** No. **40**

BE CONCURRED IN

XXXXXX

XXXXXXXX

SENATOR JACOBSON,

Chairman.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

June 27

19. 86

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on **PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY**

having had under consideration **HOUSE BILL** No. **33**

third reading copy (blue)
(Senator Christiaens will carry) ^{color}

**LIMIT GENERAL ASSISTANCE FOR ABLE-BODIED
TO TWO MONTHS -- REVISE ELIGIBILITY**

Respectfully report as follows: That **HOUSE BILL** No. **33**

BE CONCURRED IN

ADOPTED

APPROVED

SENATOR JACOBSON,

Chairman.