MINUTES OF THE MEETING STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MONTANA STATE SENATE

March 11, 1987

The thirty-fifth meeting of the State Administration Committee was called to order by Chairman Jack Haffey on March 11, 1987 at 10:07 a.m. in Room 325 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All committee members were present.

The hearing was opened on House Bill 325.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 325: Representative John Mercer, House District 50, Polson, was chief sponsor for this bill entitled, "AN ACT REORGANIZING THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF STATE GOVERNMENT: CREATING A NEW DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES: TRANSFERRING CERTAIN FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES, COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENTS, THE DE-PARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS, AND THE YOUTH COURT OF THE DISTRICT COURT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES; GENERALLY REVISING THE LAWS RELATING TO CHILD WELFARE SERVICES, CHILD AND ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES, AND THE YOUTH COURT TO CONFORM TO THE REORGANIZATION; REPEALING SECTIONS 41-3-1106, 41-3-1113, ...; AND 53-20-412, MCA; AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES." He stated he had served on the Governor's Youth Advisory Reorganization Council and noted this bill was a result of a year of study. One main concern was that the allocation of youth services had a real problem in the way the services are allotted. This bill would reorganize these services. It does not create a new agency but is just a reorganization of services that already exist. It would require that before a child is committed to an institution or placed in a foster home that the probation officer must consult the school district, mental health organizations and with a person from a state agency to decide what is the best placement for a child. If this placement is rejected then a reason has to be submitted in writing for that decision. He felt you would get the best of both worlds by having the state still be responsible for the budgeting and local officials having a voice in making the decisions. There would also be advisory councils to council the state agencies as to the best solution for a particular case. The committee had done the best they could to try and improve the way the youth are being handled presently. He felt it was a step in the right direction for our youth. He distributed a copy of what the bill proposes to do to the committee. (EXHIBIT 1)

PROPONENTS: Senator Joe Mazurek, Senate District 23, Helena, who was also a member of the council felt it represented a broad cross section of people from all aspects of youth care services from local providers to state agencies. He noted some of the history of youth care provision and the continuing problems in

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this area which prompted the Governor to come up with this He noted the current system is very fragmented and not very cost effective. The committee had made recommendations to develop a system that would still make decisions on a local level and make a single agency accountable for the advocacy of youth services. He stated it was important that the current sources of funding and funding amounts should continue with any additional growth being the responsibility of the state. He added it was particularly important to get a handle on the disposition of the youth in the district courts. It was not creating a new SRS but simply a structure that concentrates more on the local level and builds from the bottom He felt a compromise had been reached regarding the probation officers. The system as it stands currently is too fragmented and needs to be improved and he felt this was a step in that direction.

Carroll South, Director of the Department of Institutions, related the problems that are involved when two agencies are trying to work out a solution to a problem with a youth. He noted they have limited facilities and yet keep receiving more and more youth every year. The judicial system is frustrated too by having the children bouncing back and forth between SRS and the Department of Institutions. It is very difficult to budget two agencies also he added. Presently no single agency is accountable either to the Governor or to the Legislature so in some cases there might be duplicate efforts. He felt having one agency accountable would solve some current problems.

Dave Lewis, Director of the Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services or SRS, stated he had attended meetings held all across the state trying to organize efforts to consolidate and form one agency for youth services. He noted it was very apparent there needed to be accountability for the service delivery system that has been developed. There needs to be authority to set priorities which does not exist presently. The system as it stands now is very flawed he stated. He read a letter from Nancy Neibauer dated November 14, 1985 which related to a serious incident and prompted efforts which started this whole review. (EXHIBIT 2)

Gene Huntington, a member of the Governor's staff and the Director Designate, discussed how he might implement the proposal. He distributed a copy of an organizational chart that would be proposed. (EXHIBIT 3) He felt accountability and authority to operate a youth service system needed to be geographically centralized. The intent was to have advisory councils to provide the overall policy guidance and the district supervisors would be responsible to the director. He felt it was very important to preserve services that are provided on a day-to-day basis. Current services would continue to be provided until an

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assessment could be made to determine if changes needed to be In the first biennium there would be no changes he felt. In the second year more detailed plans could be presented and He stated he felt it was critical to consolidate developed. the authority at the state level and at the local levels. then distributed a copy of the report to the Governor that the council has made. (EXHIBIT 4) He also distributed a copy of a study done in three states recently entitled, "Reinvesting Youth Corrections Resources: A Tale of Three States." He felt the committee needed to recognize the need for a change before a crisis occurred. He felt a compromise had been reached that took some authority from youth courts for placement which solved a major problem and left the probation officers as members of the court. He left technical amendments he was proposing. (EXHIBIT 6 & 7) He also gave the committee letters from Janet Stevens, Missoula County Commissioner (EXHIBIT 8) and one from the Missoula County Welfare Director urging their support. (EXHIBIT 9)

Gordon Bennett, a local District Court Judge, appearing on his own behalf, stated he felt this was the most forward piece of legislative he had viewed this session and that it would provide a beginning in community corrections in the youth field. He felt it would provide greater access for small outlying communities by developing a unified coordinated system which takes away some of the fragmentation that exists presently.

Geoffrey Birnbaum, Director of Missoula Youth Homes, who was also a member of the reorganizing council, stated there were serious problems in the treatment of our youth in the state. He felt it was important that there be one single agency, that resources be established to follow the children and their needs and that a plan be developed for the future. He noted presently there is a lot of confusion as to who to call in the system and when it comes to budgeting also. He urged support.

Norman Waterman, Director of the Lewis & Clark County Department of Human Services, testified the services are very fragmented and supported the legislation very heartily. (EXHIBIT 10)

Robert Butovorich, Butte Silver Bow Sheriff, noted the current system is fragmented and lacks authority and responsibility and as a result numerous youth are falling through the gaps. This proposal would consolidate county and state existing services into one strong unit that would be beneficial to all. (EXHIBIT 11)

Harold McLaughlin, County Director for Cascade County Human Services, stated he had thirty years of experience and felt this had helped him realize the existing problems and noted that private funding agencies in Great Falls also recognize the problems. He urged support. (EXHIBIT 12) Senate State Administration March 11, 1987 Page Four

Joy McGrath, representing the Mental Health Association of Montana, stated they actively support the bill. They did not have a seat on the council but did attend the hearings and felt the planning process was very important to the parents in the state who need the support.

John Wilkinson, Administrator of the Intermountain Deaconess Home in Helena, noted he was very tired of seeing a system that operates through a series of people through a series of defaults and was tired also of seeing children migrate through the system needlessly. He stated he receives many calls from parents who are desperate because they can get no response from the system. The bill may not be perfect but it is something that is long overdue he felt.

Representative Ron Miller, House District 34, Great Falls, noted as chairman of the Institutions Subcommittee, that he supported the bill and felt it was something that was desperately needed because currently there is no continuity. He urged passage of the proposal.

Representative Cal Winslow, House District 89, Billings, stated the legislature has been trying to deal with this problem for the past four sessions. He noted before there was a hodgepodge of services with no continuity and it has been very hard to address. He felt the state needs to look at a statewide reorganization plan to consolidate and make one single agency responsible for the needs of our children. He felt it was an extremely important issue.

Mona Jamison, representing the Juvenile Probation Officer's Association, stated they support the bill as amended and urged its concurrence. She felt the compromise reached would best serve the interests of the children. There is still local control in the youth court and there is accountability from the advisory councils. Recommendations have to be put into writing so there is accountability between the decision maker and the people who pay the bills so it provides a balance.

Craig Anderson, Chief Probation Officer of the Seventh Judicial District, who was also a member of the task force, agreed with previous testimony and felt this proposal removed the conflict between the entities who are going to provide the services while still retaining local community efforts to respond in a positive way.

Mel Mohler, representing himself, stated the council had heard input from all the agencies and they all felt there was a fragmentation of services currently. He felt it was a good bill. (EXHIBIT 13)

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Representative Bill Strizich, House District 41, Great Falls, who is a probation officer also, supported the bill because it focused on some major problems dealing with our children.

Several others from the audience stood who were not able to testify due to time restraints.

OPPONENTS: Gordon Morris, representing the Montana Association of Counties, stated that MACO shares the concerns that the well being of our youth needs to be addressed. He was concerned, however, that the concept of the bill had been done a disservice from the original intention when the probation officers were taken out of the bill. He felt by doing this it left a missing equation. He wondered whose authority would prevail. He felt the bill as it presently stands only affects 44 counties as 12 counties are state assumed presently anyway. He felt if there is a problem in communications it is between SRS and the Department of Institutions and the District Judges and probation officers. He felt this bill would not eliminate that concern. Without the probation officers in the bill he felt that SRS could do what is being proposed now without even passing this proposal. He felt it would be wise to put together a pilot proposal in 12 counties to see if it is a feasible solution. He felt if there is no cap put on the measure that the costs would more than likely be shifted back to the counties. He urged that as the bill presently stands, it receive a do not pass recommendation.

Ted Fletcher, Powder River County Commissioner, stated as MACO chairman, he felt the bill was just a backdoor approach for counties to fund a state bureaucracy. He felt local county official control is removed and there would not be improved services. He noted in the state-assumed counties the costs have risen beyond control and felt this would happen statewide if this proposal were to pass. (EXHIBIT 14)

Norma Keil, of Conrad and a member of the North Central Advisory Agency on Aging, stated they were defensive of any hint of "reorganization." She noted they were not given any consideration in the planning of the proposal and felt it needed more planning. (EXHIBIT 15)

Dolores Shelton, President of the Montana Association of County Workers, stated that testifying before the committee puts the county and social workers in an untenable position as they are speaking out against SRS's stand regarding HB 325. She noted that each of the 56 counties in the state were being represented today as opposing the bill. She cited an example of a special social services program proposed in Glasgow which failed. She felt changes would occur at the local level which would drastically affect the services to children, families and adults in

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rural areas if this measure were to pass. She was concerned about fragmentation of services, an increase in property taxes due to loss of County Commission control, delays in resolving solutions to problems, and that rural areas would lose services. In her written testimony she offered suggestions for ways to control and decrease costs under existing methods. (EXHIBIT 16)

She also submitted letters from Diane Altimus, County Director for Sweetgrass and Stillwater Counties, (EXHIBIT 17), Jim Fay, County Director for Butte Silver Bow, (EXHIBIT 18) and from Eudora Fald, County Director for Anaconda Deer Lodge County. (EXHIBIT 19)

Susan Matthews, Social Worker for Custer, Powder River and Garfield Counties, felt there would be testimony submitted from line workers from every county in opposition to the bill. She stated she represented the grass roots and trench workers who are very concerned with the problems of our youth. Removing a portion of SRS and a portion of Institutions would not solve any problems by creating a new department nor help in budgeting. This would just create a new bureaucracy she felt. She recommended using the existing bureaucracy, putting the probation authority back and capping county expenditures. She felt unity must be complete and urged the proposal do not pass. (EXHIBIT 20)

Robert Sybrant, Gallatin County Director, did not feel that reorganization would take care of the problems of the youth in the state. He stated he had studied the bill very carefully and felt it was just state assumption of social services. It would cost more general fund money and eventually more in property tax dollars. He noted the procedures they use in Gallatin County which are locally oriented were very effective. He suggested amendments to bring probation back into the bill, capping county expenditures and giving the counties an option. (EXHIBIT 21)

David McMillan, Richland County Commissioner, felt the intention of the legislation to centralize authority and responsibility of all youth services was well intended but that the creation of an entire new level of bureaucracy would not create any savings to address the real issues. He felt costs would only increase and create more questions than answers. He stated they were hesitant about what future legislation might do also. (EXHIBIT 22)

Nancy Neibart, from Hill County, who is County Director for Human Services, felt the legislation would only present problems. She felt there would be no improvement in services and that the local providers would not be able to guarantee better service. Senate State Administration March 11, 1987 Page Seven

Bonnie Holman, County Director for Broadwater County in Townsend, stated she was concerned about the delivery of services to high risk children and adults in sparsely populated counties where resources are sparse and in some cases even non-existent. She felt there should be assurances beforehand that this would be an improvement over the current structure. (EXHIBIT 23)

Marsha Burnett, a social worker from Cascade County, stated they were concerning about reorganization from the beginning. She was especially concerned about excluding juvenile probation from being a part of family services and felt the proposal would only be creating another layer of bureaucracy for the placement of children. Not being involved in the decision making process was wrong she felt as they were the providers of the services. (EXHIBIT 24)

Diann Button, a social worker from Choteau County, was concerned about the continuity of services to clients. She felt with a separation of agencies they would lose manpower and be unable to work closely with their clients. She was also concerned about services for developmentally disabled individuals. The concept of a family service agency was good but the current plan left too many unresolved questions she felt. (EXHIBIT 25)

Bonnie Compton, County Director for Blaine County, brought a deposition from Burt Annin which stated what had happened in Alabama and South Carolina when they same type of reorganization had been attempted. (EXHIBIT 26)

Bill Collins, Assistant Administrator for the Community Services Division of SRS, noted he is in contact daily with social workers throughout the state and could not see where this proposal would assist them in their work and might even compound the burdens they face and eventually diminish the level of service they are now able to provide. (EXHIBIT 27)

Colleen Lippke, from Billings, had a petition which contained signatures of staff in Yellowstone County opposing the measure. She felt local providers were not being considered in the proposal and was concerned about the quality of service that would be provided to the clients. (EXHIBIT 28)

Bea Lunda, representing herself, stated she had been involved in internal auditing in SRS for the past few years to determine whether they continue compliance in order to maintain the federal dollars SRS currently receives. She also wanted to see continuity in unifying youth services. She felt a fiscal note should be provided so there was assurance that services would be provided for. She said there are many children now who are not being involved who need help desperately.

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She stated she felt participation rates should be formed. She gave the committee computer data on state-assumed counties versus non-assumed counties and felt the measure would not provide assurance of maximum participation in federal funding opportunities and separates placement authority from payment responsibilities. She said without compliance the state would not continue to receive federal dollars. (EXHIBIT 29) also submitted a letter from District Court Judge R.D. McPhillips urging the bill be defeated. (EXHIBIT 30) bill as written is flawed she said because it does not take into consideration the legal liability issues that might arise and she thought the committee should look at state assumption to see how it has worked and should fund this bill properly before acting on the proposal.

Carol Evans, a social worker from Missoula County, stated they had sent a letter to the committee on March 6, 1987 noting their opposition and supported all the testimony given in opposition at the hearing. (EXHIBIT 31)

Bonnie Lee Perry, from Richland County Department of Public Welfare, opposed the bill and left a written statement. (EXHIBIT 32)

Theresa Callahan, from Thompson Falls, wondered if the local schools and mental health workers had been consulted regarding placements. (EXHIBIT 33)

Representative Angela Russell, House District 99, Big Horn County, stated she opposed the bill for a number of reasons and had opposed the bill in the House also.

Others who did not have time to testify left testimony for the committee. These included: Mike Kennedy, Audrey Johnson, Ann Gowen, Fred Jenneskens, Kathy Ostranar, J.T. Brown Lee, Judith Williams, David Wallace, Crystal Purcell, Kathi Ellison, Edwin Lambrecht, Joe Cahill, Cheryl Price, Betty Mueller and Dain Christianson. (EXHIBITS 34-48) Testimony from Jim Rolando from Missoula was received after the hearing also. (EXHIBIT 49)

QUESTIONS ON HOUSE BILL 325: Senator Farrell asked whether the local review process in Gallatin County could overrule a youth court refusal and was told the process was reviewed by various individuals who are all involved in the planning and placement but once a placement is made it cannot be questioned. The crowd indicated this was not the case in different counties however. Senator Farrell asked Gene Huntington why the rates were so much higher in state-assumed counties and he stated he felt the reason was due to population levels. Senator Rasmussen

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asked how much local input has been considered. Gene Huntington stated the hearing were public and felt information has been distributed to the public in this manner. A social worker from Sanders County responded they had attended the hearings but when concerns were expressed they were told not to worry they would be addressed. Senator Mazurek stated that the council members went back to the local counties and met with probation officers and line workers in their areas for input. He felt the line workers were the ones who wanted the changes made. He noted the council had looked at taking responsibility back to the local communities and they had responded they did not want the responsibility. Senator Lynch asked for a list of counties that were opposed and was told by Gordon Morris that those who favored the proposal were Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Yellowstone and possibly Missoula County. Senator Harding asked Gene Huntington how the program affects the aging community and was told this division would be transferred to this agency and that he had met with representatives of their group and had assured them their services would remain the same.

Senator Abrams asked Dolores Shelton if there were representatives from all counties in opposition and she stated this was correct. Senator Farrell asked Dolores Shelton if any suggestions had been presented by lineworkers to identify some of the problems and solutions. She stated they were not involved in the decision making process. She stated she was offering some suggestions of what might happen if the bill remains intact in her written testimony.

Senator Hofman asked Bob Sybrant how one could prevent the children from falling through the cracks. He replied he could see nothing in this bill that their county was not already doing. Senator Farrell asked Bea Lunda about her statement that more kids would be involved in the programs and she noted that for a child to come in they have to be a youth in need of supervision. She flelt that more and more would be committed to the department and the state would have to assume the responsibility for them.

Representative Mercer stated that he found the council to be a very dedicated group of people committed to trying to resolve the problems of our youth. He felt that not having the lineworkers on the committee had been a mistake but he noted there were former lineworkers on the council and that efforts were made to contact local workers for their input. He felt some of the objections were because people did not know how this would affect them. He felt it was just doing what was best for the kids. He noted they had attempted to turn control back to the local people and were told that the state had assumed some of this responsibility and that the state would have to manage

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this in a sensible fashion and he felt this bill does this. He noted a major problem is limited funding and since there is limited funding that it has to be allocated wisely and was the reason one agency should be in charge. He noted the probation officers work for the district judge and that he tells the state where the kids are to be placed and because of limited resources this does not always work. He felt if the authority is placed within the agency the best of both worlds could be achieved. The probation officer is still an independent person but he would not have the ultimate authority to tell the state to spend money on a child until everyone had decided this was the best placement. He noted those who were on the committee and those who had sponsored the bill represented a cross section of people who had analyzed this bill very carefully. He felt problems should be worked out and the youth of the state should be considered first. He CLOSED the hearing on House Bill 325.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

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SENATOR JACK HAFFEY, Chairman

ROLL CALL

SENATE STATE ADMINISTRATION

COMMITTEE

50th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1987

Date____3/11/87

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
SENATOR JACK HAFFEY	X		
SENATOR WILLIAM FARRELL	X		
SENATOR LES HIRSCH	X		
SENATOR JOHN ANDERSON	X		
SENATOR J. D. LYNCH	V V		
SENATOR ETHEL HARDING	X		
SENATOR ELEANOR VAUGHN	X		
SENATOR SAM HOFMAN	X		
SENATOR HUBERT ABRAMS	- X		
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Edward 3-11-87 (3-11-87): #8325

INDEX TO HB 325, blue-yellow for Senate hearing (3-11-87):

Title: Amended to reflect removal of the probation officers from the department

- Section 1: adds department of family services to the list of departments in executive branch (pg. 2)
- Section 2: establishes a director for the department (pg. 3)
- Section 3: states the purpose of the bill (pg. 3)
- Section 4: establishes the definitions of the department and the department director for the statutes to follow (pq. 4)
- Section 5: consolidates the powers and duties of the existing services within SRS and Institutions and the duties of placement of youth court referrals and orders and the planning functions of the local youth services planning councils (House amended this section to exclude probation officers from the bill and to make the local plans be stronger recommendations to the state council) (pg. 4)
- Section 6: establishes local service areas for the department in order to promote local service delivery systems (pg. 7)
- Section 7: establishes a state youth services council (pg. 7)
- Section 8: establishes local youth services council for local input to the state plan for youth services with clear goals and objectives; the department will have to give the local councils written justifications for not using any parts of the local plans (pg. 8)
- Section 9: states which institutions are in the new department (pg. 9)
- Section 10: repeats current language in statute regarding public assistance by the department creating a debt to the state (pg. 10)
- Section 11: indicates which functions are being transferred from SRS to the new department (pg. 10)
- Section 12: indicates which functions are being transferred from county welfare departments to the new department (pg. 12)
- Section 13: indicates which functions are being transferred from Institutions to the new department (pg. 13)

- Old Section 14 was struck in the House to delete probation from this bill.
- Section 14: continues the county participation in protective services workers' salaries, travel, and indirect costs; the county participation in these costs is frozen at the FY1987 expenditure level as an incentive for county to support the transfer Counties now pay 25% of these costs. The House added "adjusted for inflation" to ease the burden on the state. (pg. 16)
- Section 15: establishes youth placement committees which are appointed by the department in each judicial district and include a probation officer, a department staff, representative of the local schools, and a mental health professional; advises the department on placement of youth court cases; a result of the compromise removing the probation officers (pg. 16)
- Section 16: sets forth the duties of the youth placement committee in recommending placement options to the department (pg. 17)
- Section 17: sets forth the procedures between the youth placement committees and department with recommendations and rejections in writing and copied to the youth court judge (pg. 18)
- Section 18: allows the youth court to place youth temporarily or for emergency purposes up to 45 without review by the youth placement committee; avoids unnecessary delays (pg. 19)
- Section 19: establishes confidentiality of the youth placement committees' records and proceedings (pg. 19)
- Section 20: indicates that transferred employees become employees of the new department and will not receive a reduction in pay due to the transfer of their positions; in response to organized labor (pg. 20)
- Section 21: on page 22, lines 17 and 18; amends 20-5-301; cleans up language and changes SRS to Family Services (pg. 20)
- Section 22: amends 20-7-404, "interagency cooperation"; change SRS and Institutions to Family Services (pg. 23)
- Section 23: amends 20-7-422, "special education tuition"; change SRS and Institutions to Family Services (pg.24)
- Section 24: amends 20-9-304, "state impact aid for schools"; adds department of family services (pg. 24)

CONSTRUCTION 1 DATE 3-11-87 HB 325

- Old Section 24 returns statute to current las due to deletion of probation officers from this bill.
- Section 25: amends 40-4-209, "child support"; adds department of family services and clarifies department of revenue (pg. 27)
- Section 26: amends 40-5-112, "child support"; adds department of family services (pg. 29)
- Section 27: amends 40-5-113, "child support"; adds department of family services (pg. 30)
- Section 28: amends 40-5-139, "child support"; adds department of family services (pg. 30)
- Section 29: amends 40-5-202, "child support"; adds department of family services (pg. 31)
- Section 30: amends 40-5-303, "child support"; adds department of family services (pg. 34)
- Section 31: amends 40-6-107, "paternity"; adds the department of family services (pg. 34)
- Section 32: amends 40-6-110, "paternity"; adds the department of family services (pg. 35)
- Section 33: amends 40-8-103, "adoption"; changes SRS to Family Services (pg. 36)
- Section 34: amends 40-8-126, "adoption"; adds department of family services (pg. 37)
- Section 35: amends 41-3-102, "child protective services"; deletes definition of supervision previously needed for court ordered placements; changes SRS to Family Services; and adds a definition of a social worker which is used throughout current law (pg. 38)
- Section 36: amends 41-3-108, "child protective teams"; changes from county welfare to department of family services (pg. 43)
- Section 37: amends 41-3-204, "evidence"; changes from county to new department (pg. 43)
- Section 38: amends 41-3-205, "confidentiality"; adds department of family services (pg. 45)
- Section 39: amends 41-3-208, "rulemaking authority for child protective services"; changes from SRS to Family Services (pg. 46)

- Section 40: amends 41-3-301, "emergency protective services"; changes from SRS and the county welfare department to the department of family services (pg. 46)
- Section 41: amends 41-3-302, "responsibility to provide protective services"; changes from SRS and the county welfare department to department of family services (pg. 47)
- Section 42: amends 41-3-401, "child abuse and neglect petitions"; returns statute to current language and changes SRS to Family Services (pg. 47)
- Section 43: amends 41-3-402, "petition for TIA"; returns statute to current language and changes SRS to Family Services (pg. 50)
- Section 44: amends 41-3-607, "petition for termination of parental rights"; returns statute to current language and changes SRS to Family Services (pg. 51)
- Section 45: amends 41-3-1102, "definitions"; changes SRS to Family Services and cleans up the definition of youth care facility (pg. 52)
- Section 46: amends 41-3-1103, "powers and duties of department" as transferred from SRS to Family Services; remove cooperation with Institutions due to the transfer of the youth institutions to Family Services; remove mention of "paper budgets" to youth courts in accordance with similar deletion of current statute; and deleting unnecessary language re: allowable costs to the new department (pg. 54)
- Section 47: amends 41-3-1104, "aftercare facilities"; changes Institutions to Family Services (pg. 56)
- Section 48: amends 41-3-1112, "petition for placement by a youth"; stipulates licensed home and deletes home approved by the court as all placements will be made through the department and must be licensed (pg. 57)
- Section 49: amends 41-3-1114, "jurisdiction of the youth court"; changes Institutions to Family Services and allows the jurisdiction to be terminated after discharge from the new department (pg. 57)
- Section 50: amends 41-3-1115, "foster care review committee"; returns statutes to current language (pg. 57)
- Section 51: amends 41-3-1122, "payment for placement"; changes SRS to Family Services; establishes the current SRS method of reimbursement by counties to the new department; (3) provides a reduction in the county matching rate when the county expenditures for foster care reach

3-11-87

the FY 1987 level-from 50% to 25% of the non-federal-share of the placement; (4) provides counties with less than \$10,000 expended for foster care in 1987 to opt for an average of the last 3 years expenditures rather the 1987 expenditure level (pg. 59)

- Section 52: amends 41-3-1123, "financial ability to pay"; extends the possible parental contributions for care to youth correctional facilities and changes the responsibility for the financial investigation from the county to the new department (pg. 61)
- Section 53: amends 41-5-103, "definitions"; adds a definition for the department of family services; deletes a previous amendment adding the definition of a probation officer; returns some parts to current language; cleans up language under "restitution"; and adds a definition of "serious juvenile offender" (pg. 62)
- Old Section 51 returns to current statute due to probation compromise.
- Section 54: amends 41-5-106, "adjudication--non-criminal"; language clean up changing "commitment" to "placement" (pg. 68)
- Old Section 53 returns to current statute due to probation compromise.
- Section 55: amends 41-5-205, "jurisdiction"; changes end of youth court jurisdiction from time of commitment to Institutions to time of discharge from department of family services (pg. 70)
- Section 56: amends 41-5-206, "transfer to criminal court"; language clean up, subsection (f) is included under (1) (a)(i) on page 70, line 24
- Section 57: amends 41-5-301, "preliminary investigation and disposition"; returns statute to current language and changes SRS to Family Services (pg. 74)
- Section 58: amends 41-5-403, "informal dispositions"; restricts judges' placement to that determined by the department; removes the 6 month commitment to Institutions which was used to place youth in group care (not needed now with department's responsibility to place); removes language which indicated the notification of and relationship between the youth court and SRS in placement of youth out-of-state (not needed) (pg. 77)
- Section 59: amends 41-5-511, "right to counsel"; changes commitment to correctional facilities or Institutions to the department of family services (pg. 79)

- Section 60: amends 41-5-522, "dispositional hearing"; strikes an inappropriate cite on page 81, line 19 (pg.80)
- Section 61: amends 41-5-523, "disposition of delinquent youth and youth in need of supervision"; this is the heart of the compromise with the probation officers; allows all of the current dispositions available to the youth court judge, except he cannot designate the particular placement of the youth and he can only order such other treatment and care as does not commit departmental funds without the department's approval; a youth placement committee which includes a probation officer will recommend to the department; if the youth is a serious juvenile offender, the judge can require a secure placement by the department; a youth placed with the department will continue under the supervision of the probation officer unless that youth is placed in a youth correctional facility in which case the department will supervise the youth; if the court orders the department to provide an evaluation, the location of the evaluation is at the department's discretion; deletes current language regarding youth court placement's out-of-state; changes commitment order from Institutions to department of family services (pg. 82)
- Section 62: amends 41-5-602, "law enforcement records"; adds
 Family Services to the list of agencies allowed to
 inspect law enforcement records prior to sealing if the
 department is providing services to the youth (pg.86)
- Section 63: amends 41-5-603, "youth court records"; adds departmental records regarding youth court placements to be handled the same as youth court records and returns probation officer language to statute (pg. 88)
- Old Section 63 returns to current statute due to probation compromise.
- Section 64: amends 45-5-624, "unlawful possession"; on page 92, line 15, takes out inappropriate reference (pg. 91)
- Section 65: amends 50-8-101, "definitions in licensing"; changes SRS to Family Services and updates language (pg. 92)
- Section 66: amends 50-15-206, "disclosure of illegitimate birth"; adds department of family services to restrictions (pg. 94)
- Section 67: amends 53-1-104, "release of arsonist"; clean up language on Swan Forest Camp--taking "youth" out of title (pg. 95)

DANG 3-11-87 PHL NO. HB325

- Section 68: amends 53-1-201, "purpose of Institutions"; takes responsibility for youth institutions out of D of I (pg. 96)
- Section 69: amends 53-1-202, "institutions in D of I"; takes
 Mountain View, Pine Hills, and other juvenile institutions out of D of I ((pg. 97)
- Section 70: amends 53-2-101, "definitions under public assistance"; adds a definition of protective services under department of family services (pg. 97)
- Section 71: amends 53-2-201, "powers and duties of SRS"; removes all transferred children, adult, and licensing services from SRS (pg. 98)
- Section 72: amends 53-2-301, "county departments"; changes SRS to "state" for purposes of state assumption (pg. 101)
- Section 73: amends 53-2-302, "county welfare board"; changes SRS to "state" for purposes of state assumption (pg. 101)
- Section 74: amends 53-2-304, "county staff"; changes SRS to "state" for purposes of state assumption (pg. 102)
- Section 75: amends 53-2-306, "county administration of public assistance"; changes SRS to "state" for purposes of state assumption (pg. 104)
- Section 76: amends 53-2-322, "county levy and budget for public assistance"; changes SRS to "state" for purposes of state assumption; adds protective services for clarification; adds department of family services for the state agency responsible for protective services (pg. 105)
- Section 77: amends 53-2-323, "grant-in aid"; changes SRS to "state" (pg. 108)
- Section 78: amends 53-2-801, "purpose of state assumption"; adds department of family services for protective services (pg. 111)
- Section 79: amends 53-2-802, "definitions for state assumption"; deletes definition of department to mean SRS and uses both SRS and Family Services in appropriate parts (pg. 112)
- Section 80: amends 53-2-803, "state assumption, rulemaking"; specifies SRS and/or Family Services depending upon reference to public assistance or protective services (pg. 113)

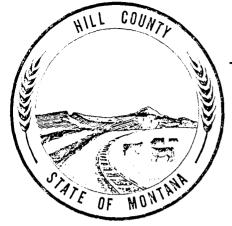
- Section 81: amends 53-2-811, "transfer for state assumption"; specifies SRS and/or Family Services depending upon reference to public assistance or protective services (pg. 114)
- Section 82: amends 53-2-812, "permanent transfer to the state"; specifies SRS or the state for purposes of state assumption (pg. 116)
- Section 83: amends 53-2-813, "mill levy for state assumption"; clarifies that the 13 mills will cover county obligations for protective services and public assistance programs with the creation of Family Services (pg.117)
- Section 84: amends 53-2-821, "creation of advisory councils for state assumption"; removing protective services from responsibility of councils and specifying SRS (pg. 118)
- Section 85: amends 53-2-822, "work program"; clarifies SRS as the department involved (pg. 119)
- Section 86: amends 53-4-101, "definitions in child welfare"; updates language; removes definition of child welfare worker (out-of-date); and changes SRS to Family Services in department definition (pg. 120)
- Section 87: amends 53-4-111, "administrative duties"; updates language and separates SRS and Family Services (pg. 120)
- Section 88: amends 53-4-113, "child rehabilitation"; updates language (pg. 121)
- Section 89: amends 53-4-115, "child custody"; deletes unnecessary language (pg. 122)
- Section 90: amends 53-4-401, "definitions for DD community services"; changes SRS to Family Services for purposes of DD casemanagement (pg. 122)
- Section 91: amends 53-4-501, "definitions for day care"; changes SRS to Family Services and an inappropriate cite (pg. 122)
- Section 92: amends 53-20-203, "definitions for DD in SRS"; adds current statute language from other amended statutes (pg. 125)
- Section 93: amends 53-20-213, "inter-departmental cooperation in DD services"; adds Family Services to mandate (pg. 127)

3-11-87 BATE HB 325

- Section 94: amends 53-20-305, "DD facility licensing"; changes

 SRS to Family Services and adds department of family services where appropriate (pg. 127)
- Section 95: amends 53-20-307, "DD facility licensing"; adds department of family services to department of health notification (pg. 128)
- Section 96: amends 53-20-401, "protective services for DD clients"; adds definition of client; changes SRS to Family Services as the responsible agency; updates language with guardian statutes in Title 72, chapter 5; and adds definition of protective services (pg. 129)
- Section 97: amends 53-20-402, "legislative directives re: protective services for DD clients"; updates language and changes SRS to Family Services (pg. 130)
- Section 98: amends 53-20-405, "protective services for DD clients"; updates language; changes SRS to Family Services: and prohibits involuntary services unless department is guardian (current practice) (pg. 131)
- Section 99: amends 53-20-409, "costs of DD protective services"; adds appropriate cites and deletes in appropriate cites--no substance change (pg. 132)
- Section 100: amends 53-29-410, "required reports on DD protective services"; adds "client" as defined in Section 96 and deletes requirement for court ordered services as it is duplicated in Title 72, chapter 5 (pg. 134)
- Section 101: amends 53-30-202, "establishment of youth correctional facilities"; update language and changes Institutions to Family Services (pg. 135)
- Section 102: amends 53-30-203, "control of youth correctional facilities"; updates language and changes Institutions to Family Services (pg. 135)
- Section 103: amends 53-30-204, "cooperative agreements with Tribes re: youth correctional services"; updates language and changes Institutions to Family Services (pg. 136)
- Section 104: amends 53-30-208, "maximum age of commitment"; updates language and changes Institutions to Family Services (pg. 136)
- Section 105: amends 53-30-211, "transfer of youth to other facility"; updates language and changes Institutions to Family Services (pg. 137)

- Section 106: amends 53-30-212, "transfer of prisoners by Institutions"; updates language and adds department of family services as a party to a transfer of a youthful offender from the prison to a youth correctional facility--no substance change (pg. 137)
- Section 107: amends 53-30-214, "return of youth to youth correctional facility"; updates language and changes reference to Institutions to Family Services (pg. 140)
- Section 108: amends 53-30-215, "penalty for aiding runaway from youth correctional facility"; updates language changing "juvenile facility" to "youth correctional facility" (pg. 141)
- Section 109: amending 53-30-226, "youth aftercare agreement"; updates language as in Section 108 (pg. 141)
- Section 110: amending 53-30-229, "aftercare violation hearing"; updates language and changes Institutions to Family Services (pg. 142)
- Section 111: indicates statutes being repealed (pg. 145)
- Section 112: extends existing rulemaking authority (pg. 145)
- Section 113: codification instructions (pg. 145)
- Section 114: severability clause (pg. 146)
- Section 115: reorganization procedure (pg. 146)
- Section 116: implementation: Governor shall implement by an executive order (pg. 146)
- Section 117: effective dates: Governor may issue an executive order any time after passage. If no executive order by October 1, 1987, bill becomes effective. (pg. 147)



Hill County Human Services

302 Fourth Avenue Havre, Montana 59501 406/265-4348

November 14, 1985



Dave Lewis
Director
Dept. of SRS
P.O. Box 4210
Helena, MT 59604

RE: The County Director's role and responsibilities

Dear Mr. Lewis:

I am responding to your letter dated 10-22-85 in which you outlined your proposed changes in County Director's duties and responsibilities. I am really concerned if these proposals are adopted because I strongly feel that taking the control out of the hands of the County Welfare Board and County Director will only hurt the Social Services delivery system unless we all become State assumed counties. It does not appear that all counties are going to be State assumed in the near future. Therefore, I think we must utilize what we do have to the fullest extent. You have some very dedicated staff doing a tremendous job out in the field. My suggestions would be if you don't feel comfortable with the County Director making decisions in certain areas then I would propose that they be provided training and supervision so that they can continue to be a viable tool that is needed in the Social Services delivery system.

You are very much aware that in Hill and Blaine Counties my staff and I have been involved in some very difficult times in Social Services. The main thing that I have learned from this is that there must be one person in charge of making the decisions whether that be the District Supervisor or the County Director.

It has become very confusing out in the field as just what is the role of the County Director. Some of the issues that have to be addressed is how legally responsible is the County Welfare Board and the County Director in both Economic Assistance and Social Services.

I would like to reafirm what the County Director's Task Force recommendation was that this issue be addressed in a Task Force manner so that all problems that a proposal such as you are presenting could be dealt with in depth.

I appreciate this opportunity for this input. If you desire any further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

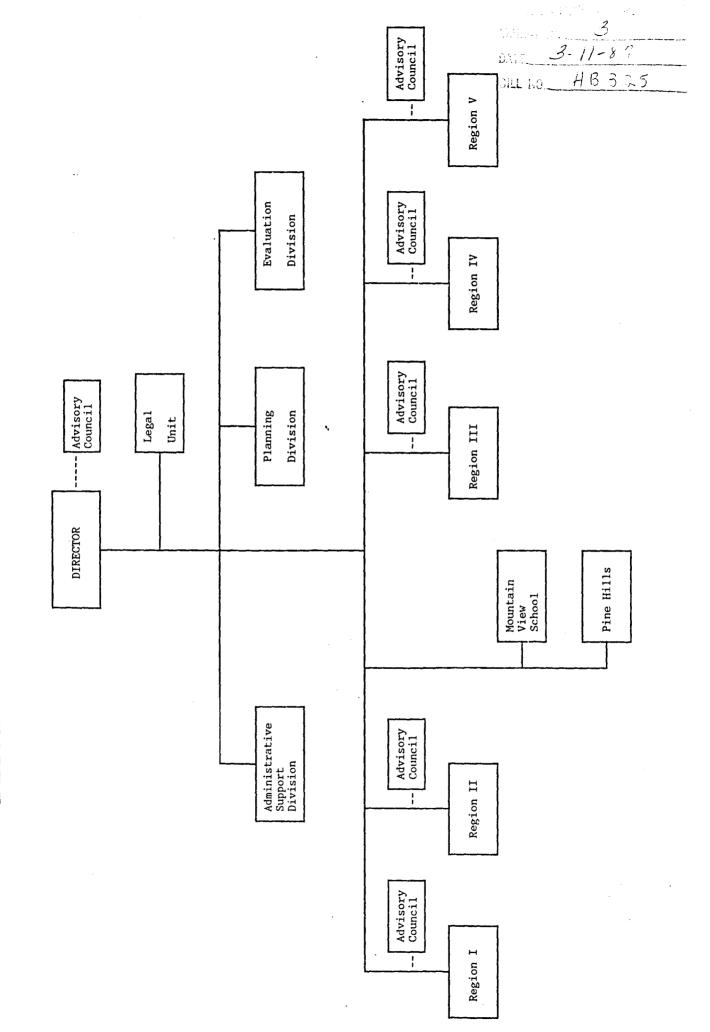
HILL, BLAINE, & LIBERTY HUMAN SERVICES

(Miss) Nancy Neibauer,

County Director III

CC: Hill County Commissioners
Blaine County Commissioners
Liberty County Commissioners

NN/sp



EALLOW IN 4 DATE 3-11-87 BILL NO. HB 325

REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR FROM THE COUNCIL ON REORGANIZATION OF YOUTH SERVICES

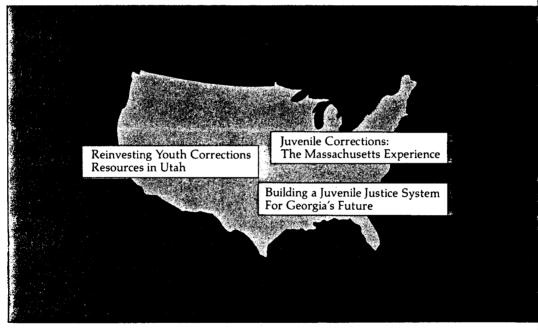
September 17, 1986

REINVESTING

YOUTH CORRECTIONS

RESOURCES:

A TALE OF THREE STATES



CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF

Youth Policy

Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs University of Minnesota

COMMIS COMME COMME. COMMIS COMME COMME. COMME 3-11-87 COMMIS COMME COMME. COMMIS COMMIS COMME. COMMIS COMMIS COMME. COMMIS COMMIS COMMIS COMMIS. COMMIS COM

AMENDMENTS TO HB325 (blue copy)

Proposed by Gene Huntington

1. Page 60, line 12 Following: "(3)"

Strike: the remainder of line 12 through line 16

2. Page 60, line 17
Following: "(4)"
Strike: "."
Insert: "."

3. Page 60, lines 19, 20, and 21

Following: "THE"

Strike: "COUNTY SHALL" and all of lines 20 and 21

Insert: "COUNTIES' MATCHING RATE WILL BE REDUCED BY HALF FOR FOSTER

PLACEMENTS OVER THEIR FY 1987 FOSTER CARE EXPENDITURE LEVEL."

AMENDMENTS TO HB 325 (blue copy)

Proposed by Gene Huntington

1. Page 16, line 15 "AND" Strike:

Insert:

Following: "EXPENSES"
Insert: ", AND INDIRECT COSTS,"

2. Page 16, line 19

Following: "SALARIES"

"AND" Strike: Insert:

Following: "TRAVEL"
Insert: "IN DIRECT COSTS"

7/11SSOULA COUNTY

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

• Missoula County Courthouse • Missoula, Montana 59802 (406) 721-5700

BCC-87-325 March 10, 1987 ENTER 10. 8 DATE 3-11-87 BUL 10. HB325

The Honorable Jack Haffey, Chairman Senate State Administration Committee Montana State Senate Capitol Station Helena, MT 59620

Dear Chairman Haffey:

I am writing today to express my support for HB-325. This bill would not cure all of the problems that we at the local or state level are faced with in trying to provide adequate services to Montana's troubled youth. However, it does take a giant step forward to improve and consolidate the delivery of services to our children.

If this bill were passed, the responsibility for troubled youth would be clearly focused into one agency and the authority for providing the needed care would be the responsibility of that department. From a county's perspective, we would have input into the well-being of our youth through local planning boards. We have not officially had that input in the past.

The sources of funding and funding amounts would stay relatively the same as they have been in the past except that any growth in funding would be the state's responsibility. The counties are responsible for the funding of youth probation as it is today.

It is my opinion that this bill would provide state and local governments a mechanism for increasing the accountability of youth services and a better means of evaluating the quality of services for all problem youth.

The bottom line is providing adequate services for the kids without the inherent cracks available for them to fall through which exist in our current system. Caring for Montana's youth is everyone's responsibility. Your approval of this bill would be the first step in making sure our children receive that caring commitment.

Sincerely,

Janet/L. Stevens

Missoula County Commissioner

JLS/1m

cc: Committee Members Missoula Senators

2015 3-11-89 BILL NO. HB 335

Mar. 10, 1987

Senator Jack Haffey, Chairman State Administration Committee Helena, MT. 59601

Dear Senator Haffey,

I am writing to you to express my support for House Bill 325 (Family Services Agency).

I have worked in Child and Adult Protective Services for over thirteen years and am presently employed as County Director for the Missoula County Office of Human Services.

During those thirteen years it has been my desire to call for community involvement in the business of protective services. It has also been my goal to see an integrated approach among agencies for the provision of services to families.

House Bill 325 is a move in the right direction for several reasons. It calls for community input through advisory groups and also combines two separate divisions of agencies that need to work in a combined effort. My belief is that the passage of this bill will require us to move forward in our approach to family problems and put the needs of the family ahead of the convenience of the agency.

Several County Welfare directors are concerned that without their involvement in Protective Services, families and children will suffer. I spoke to Gene Huntington about this issue and he assured me that the purchase of County Welfare Director's time was possible, and they could serve in a protective services capacity when appropriate. I am satisfied that with this option available children, disabled, and the elderly can be protected.

I would appreciate your vote for this bill.

Sincerely,

B. Warren Wright

B. Harre Stright

(This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.)

NAME: NORMAN WATERMAN	DATE: 3-10-87
ADDRESS: 7743 Cruyou Fryng Rd.	Helous
PHONE: 4/1/2 - 2020	
REPRESENTING WHOM? SRS	10 3-11-87
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 325	<u> </u>
DO YOU: SUPPORT? Yes AMEND?	OPPOSE?
COMMENT:	
	•

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL & REHABILITATION SERVICES

j D

LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES 3 - 11-57

RVICES 3-11-87



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

STATE OF MONTANA

(406) 442-2020

HELENA, MONTANA 59623

March 10, 1987

The Honorable Jack Haffey, Chairman State Administration Committee State Capitol Helena, MT. 59601

Dear Senator Haffey,

Opponents of creating a Department of Family Services have some legitimate concerns. No one can dispute that combining one agency with another will create problems and controversy over personnel, policy and discussion of priorities. Service delivery personnel in the field now, in all agencies, are giving good service as is evidenced by the results. That is not to say, however, that all agencies cooperate at all times or agree among themselves on priorities, placements and service to be delivered.

During my thirty-plus years of working in the service field for the State of Montana, needed services have changed drastically. There are different and more serious problems to be dealt with now. Though agencies have changed somewhat and workers are more knowledgeable and sophisticated in their approach to the problems, we are still essentially operating within the same framework of organization as we did thirty years ago. In business, the "Mom and Pop" stores are gone, outmoded, unable to compete. I believe the same principal applies to the organization of service agencies.

The advantages of an integrated Family Service Department far outweigh the transient turmoil that might result in making the change from our present system. One agency can prioritize needs, assume responsibility for overall goals, ensure prevention programs and present a budget to the legislature, rather than each separate entity responding in a piecemeal fashion.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Norm Waterman

Director

NW/sb SEC1/21

cc: Committee Members

publications & graphics

(This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.) PHONE: 282-4224 REPRESENTING WHOM? Butte Shirt Shirt DO YOU: SUPPORT? ____ AMEND? ___ OPPOSE? COMMENT:

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

The Honorable Jack Haffey, Chairman State Administration Committee Montana State Senate EXECUTION 12 DATE 3-11-87 BILL NO. HB325

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Although I have the title Director of Cascade County Office of Human Services, I wish to acknowledge that the responsibility I have in social services is now and for the past two and a half years has been limited to providing operational support. However, for some 30 years previously, I was directly involved in social service and on the basis of that experience, I can relate personally to the concerns which led to the recommendation for creation of a Department of Family Services for the management and coordination of services to the state's youth, disabled and elderly who are at risk and vulnerable to abuse, neglect and exploitation.

The report of the Council on Reorganization of Youth Services notes "the discovery of emotionally disturbed youth...in the 70's and 80's..." Cascade County made its first placement of an emotionally disturbed youth in an out of state treatment facility in 1974. Improvements in society's ability to diagnose special problems has been dramatic in the intervening 12 years and has led to more demand for the use of residential treatment centers to meet a previously unacknowledged need. In January of this year, SRS paid for 11 children who were placed out of state from Cascade County.

The consequences of physical, sexual and emotional abuse were essentially ignored until recent years when better trained and more professionally qualified workers in our schools, mental health agencies and SRS succeeded in establishing the causal relationship between the abused/neglected youth who later becomes a socially inadequate adult.

The advancement and sophistication of client assessment has resulted in greatly improved treatment plans. Unfortunately, the treatment needed by many of the troubled youth is very expensive and those agencies with responsibility for securing the treatment are all vying for a bigger share of limited funds. The existing fragmented service system does not allow for serving either disturbed youth or vulnerable adults in a manner that assures the most effective use of the state's limited resources.

Workers at the local level, at least in Cascade County have made significant progress over the past five years in coordinating their efforts and improving inter-agency relationships. However, I suspect we are still guilty of some "buck passing" when we encounter a problem case that seems to be the responsibility of another agency.

I find it interesting that private funding sources are also trying to solve the problem of too few dollars and growing need. Several child care agencies in Great Falls depend on private funding to supplement public payments. A Human Services Coordinating Council was formed in 1985. Among the problems identified by the Council after studying the agencies were the fact of some youth falling through the cracks and a lack of continuity in treatment when moving from one agency to another. The Council recommended a consolidation of the several agencies.

In summary, I support the creation of a Department of Family Services in anticipation of; a.) improved services as a result of local planning designed for local needs, b.) the consolidation of authority in a single agency, c.) a commitment to consider the need of all persons at risk followed by allocation of service to those most in need as determined by a central authority.

Harold McLaughlin, County Director Cascade County Office of Human Services March 11, 1987 (This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.)

NAME: HARold Mc Laughlin	DATE: <i>3/</i> _	11/87.
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1546, Great Falls, MT		
PHONE: 761-660 5		
REPRESENTING WHOM? CASCAde County O.H.S.		
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 4B-325		
DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND?	OPPOSE?	
COMMENT: See ATTAChad		
PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH TH	HE COMMITTEE	SECRETARY.

(This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.)

	DATE: <u>X/lax // , 198</u> ,
DRESS: Hwy 83 5 Sw	
ONE: 754 - 2215	EXTRACT 110. 13
PRESENTING WHOM? Se/f + Gov.	Study Commission Yorth S
PEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HA 3 3	<u></u>
YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND?	OPPOSE?
MMENT:	
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ils MA.Co. elistict chairman I represent Custer, Fallon, Treasure, Posebuel, Caster and Yourdes Priver countrys We feel H.B. 325 is nothing but a back door apparoch, for the countrys to fund a state burecracy; as this bill now exists local county fixed control is removed. We don't see this as improving services The surrent fixed and program accountability that we now have serves our county's very well. In the 12 countrys that are state assumed the east has resen Cayonal central, we feel this will happen state with the passage of H.B. 325 Teel Fletches Powder River County Commissiones

3-11-87 HB325

Because of the fragmentation of Aging Services approximately five years ago in the reorganization of the Department of SRS, we in the "aging business" are extremely defensive when it comes to any hint of "reorganization."

Mr. Huntington, the proposed director of the new department, has repeatedly assured us the State Aging Services will remain the same for "quote, at <u>least one year</u>, unquote." What is <u>one year</u>? Then what? Will we be going through the same battle all over again?

Since Aging Services was not given <u>any</u> consideration in the drafting of this Bill, we feel all of this reorganization has been far too hasty. Conversations with providers of youth services make it apparent that they, too, feel there has not been enough thought, planning <u>and</u> investigation into the ramifications of such an undertaking.

Therefore, we strongly urge this committee to place a "Do Not Pass" stamp on this bill.

This statement has been presented by Norma Keil, a member of the Advisory Council of the North Central Area III Agency on Aging,

NAME: Delores M Shellon	DATE: 3-11-87
ADDRESS: 308 Bank Electric Bi	·
DUONE: 5387468	EXECUTE NO. 16
REPRESENTING WHOM? Montan Conscioling	ounty Director
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HB 325	
OO YOU: SUPPORT?AMEND?	OPPOSE?
COMMENTS:	
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PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

TESTIMONY ON HB 325

March 11, 1987

Name:

Delores M. Shelton

Title:

County Director III for Fergus

Petroleum, Musselshell, Golden Valley, Wheatland and Judith Basin Counties

Address:

308 Bank Electric Building

Lewistown, MT 59457

Phone:

538-7468

Representing: Montana Association of County Directors

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am Delores Shelton and I am President of the Montana Association of County Directors. I am here to represent our organization's stand on HB 325. I have been employed by Social and Rehabilitation Services since 1970 and have been county welfare director for 11 counties. I was also county director in north east Montana from 1971-74 when Social Services was split out into a separate agency under a pilot project.

Our organization is comprised of local administrators, most of whom have devoted their adult lives to the delivery services for youth, families and adults.

Being here today puts County Director and other SRS employees in an untenable position as we are speaking out against our department's position

of view must be represented. Only 4 County Directors were authorized by opposed to this biel. Money more would be here if they had not put the near of their clear ord Corcer for their forms from the line staff were so authorized. Clients are served at the last the last served at the last the last served at the last

served at the local level and this is where changes will occur that will drastically adversely affect the services to children, families and adults Shelton - continued

3-11-87 SILL NO. HB325

in rural Montana if HB325 is allowed to pass.

The main areas of concern for us are:

- 1. Fragmentizing of services: the majority of the clients who will be served by the Family Services Department also receive benefits through economic assistance. These clients will have 2 super agencies to deal with instead of one, increasing delays, run-arounds and hassles.
- 2. Increase in property taxes due to loss of County Commissioner control: the attempts at "freezing" costs in the bill will not deter the increase caused by loss of local control.
- 3. Every county and district now has a mechanism for identifying needs of our clients. We feel that the passage of this bill will delay for another two to three years the solutions.
- 4. We strongly feel that rural Montana will lose services. In the last round of budget cuts 25 home attendant positions were cut and these were almost all in rural Montana where there are already minimal services. As a result of the home attendant cuts it was projected that 71 clients would enter the nursing home within 6 months. This in part has already been felt by increased Medicaid costs.
- 5. Aging and adult services are included in the new department but are ignored in the development of advisory committees and of planning.

We do have suggestions to control or decrease costs under the current set up. These include:

- Increased utilization of IVE funding, (federal funds). SRS should make it mandatory that all their foster care placements be reviewed by an eligibility technician for possible IVE eligibility. The current process of Social Worker prescreening is not catching all eligible cases.
- 2. The Legislature needs to make it mandatory that all other youth placement agencies meet the 'federal IVE requirements.
- 3. Parents of the vast majority of children in care are not contributing to the cost of that care. The Legislature needs to make it clear that foster care payments are a debt owed by the parent to the state.
- 4. Increase Home Attendant staff. This kind of preventive services keeps down placement for both the elderly and disabled in nursing homes and children in foster care.
- 5. Encourage development of local programs including specially trained foster parents and teams of local professionals to treat sexually abused, emotional disturbed, chemically dependent and other special needs youth. Treatment programs, such as Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch cost over \$2000 a month and the period of time to get the child back in the home increases the more traumatic the separation. Such local programs would decrease "treatment" costs and lengths of placements.

Shelton - continued

16 3-11-8? HB325

departments meet regularly and develop overall plans for human services. HB 325 provides for a youth services council to be appointed and their time paid for. This could be done by agencies as part of their regular duties.

We urge your vote against HB 325. If you have any questions I would be happy to answer these.

Other testimony handed in from:
Diane altimis, Country Director
Severity and Stielwater Country

Jim Frey, Country Director

Show Bow Country

Culora Fald, Country Director

Deer Lodge Country

late.

Only 3 association members supported the bill. The liveters from Missoula, Lewis and Clark and Cascade ountin. All from state assumed Countrie with righ forter Care placements. They are not invalid in social service.

Ceddendum to Shelton Cestimony HB325 I want to talk briefly about the special social services project which I mentioned Page 1 previously. One of the things I have learned about humans is that we tend to not learn from the past and continue to make the some mistakes. The Glasgow project was dreamed up in Helena without local input. It was forced on the fine counties involved with a promise of savings to the counties. The district social worker supervesor objected to the plane and even quit. During the first year the newagency, You comprised of County social workers and home attendents, floundered as there was no organing supervisor or derector beall guidance from Helena was sporation and the Goals or focus of the new agency needed to be defined. In the remaining two years supervision remark a problem. The split between economic assistance and social services was to the point where very little Commencation occurred. Cet the end of the project the decision was made

not to implement it statewide and the fine

Counties were required to again assume The

Shelton addendum page 2 responsibilité for staff and administrate at a Considérable increase in cost. In my opinion the project failed because 1. No planning other than the idea for a new agency. The mechanics were not thrught through 2. To local input and the Counties were found to accept the State's decesion. 3. Because services to cliente were fragmented and 4. Because it was more coolly to the state to have service and economic assistance separate. Just the administrative coat of funding Mr. Huntington's position and the five regional tage 3 directors positions would be sufficient to hire back dome lettendant staff. This would have a ripple effect of savings to Medicaid and forter care.

DATE 3-11-87
BILL NO. #8325

TO: House State Administration Committee

RE: HB 325

Enclosed is a copy of Stillwater County's letter. Big Timber's letter says the same and they do not support HB-325.

The third paragraph of our letter is of real concern. Will the new agency want the funds that the county budgets for Social Services? Huntington's update - #4 - Does it mean just that all funds go into one pot?

#3 - According to George Shanley, County Director, Dawson County, the Department will not have the final say as his judge is saying no one is going to tell him what to do.

The bill is just another State Assumption - State already has one mess and is asking for another without real planning or forsight.

I feel like I'm leaning while our ship is either going to sink or float - hope.

Diane Altimus County Director Sweetgrass & Stillwater Counties



23-11-89 BILL NO. 48325

COUNTY OF STILLWATE

COLUMBUS, MONTANA

February 23, 1987

Senator Harry McLane State Capitol Building Helena, Montana 59620

RE: HB 325 - Creation of Family

Services Department

Dear Senator McLane;

We have been advised that HB 325 has now passed the House and that there are a number of amendments to the original bill.

It was our understanding that the primary purpose of this proposal was to consolidate the responsibility and accountability for Youth Services, which included Youth Probation. Now the Probation Officers will no longer be a part of this new agency, if created. Why then propose a new agency if all services to youths and families cannot be uniform.

We think an important issue to remember is that in the rural counties we now levy poor fund dollars based on projected need and if these funds are not expended, we do not lose them at the end of the fiscal year. One of the amendments is to allow for the averaging of foster care costs. If we averaged an amount that was too high or because of children leaving care, the amount budgeted was not spent, are the counties going to get these funds back or will they go to pay other counties foster care. This item alone is, and will be, more costly to the counties and is totally unrealistic.

It is also recommended that current Social Service staff remain in the county offices at no cost to the new agency, and additional support service continue to be provided by the county. It is our feeling that we should not be financially expected to pay for a department that we are not directly responsible for. Also, any equipment must be given to the new agency if the State shared in the purchase cost. In most counties, the State share has been minimal and this transfer would only end up costing counties more dollars to replace the equipment.



Senator McLane February 23, 1987 Page two

نيا وأنائك	17	
	3-11-87	
	10 HB 325	

Also, the issue of the County Director has not been addressed. In most rural counties, the County Directors' are providing direct services in emergency situations when social workers are not available and they also provide day-to-day administrative supervision. What happens, when this new agency is created, and emergencies come up, who will handle them? It seems to us this only reduces services to children and families. A portion of the County Director's salary now funded through Community Services would be given to the new agency and it would then create another burden on the counties to pick up this additional cost.

The Administration states this proposal will cost the counties no additional dollars. We feel this new agency will be costly and who will pick up the additional funds - who else but the local counties.

This is not a consolidation of Youth Services if one of the largest groups, Probation and Youth Court, expending funds is allowed to withdraw.

This Bill eliminates county authority and places it with a new State agency. Decisions made at the local level are based on funds available. It is only reasonable to believe that as this agency experiences increased costs, that the county's costs will also increase. We do not feel that this new department will create a better system or provide more services or any better accountability.

We understand that on February 19, 1987, at the MACo meeting in Helena, it was voted 37-3 against support of HB-325. Therefore, we urge you to vote no on HB-325.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Story, Sr., Chairman

Stillwater County Commissioner

Earl R. Adams, Member

Stillwater County Commissioner

Rick Young, Member

Stillwater County Commissioner

Diane Altimus

County Director II

c.c. Senator Jack Haffey (Chairman)
Senator William Farrell
Senator Les Hirsch
Senator John Anderson
Senator Sam Hofman

Senator Hubert Abrams Senator J.D. Lynch Senator Ethel Harding Senator Eleanor Vaughn

3-11-89 HB 325

UPDATE ON HB 325, DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES LEGISLATION

February 20, 1987

The amended bill was transmitted to the Senate on February 14th. This legislation now proposes the following basic changes to children and youth services:

- 1) The new department consolidates child protective services, youth institutional services, aftercare services, domestic violence, adult protective services, and aging services from both SRS and Institutions.
- 2) The youth court can only place a youth with the department rather than specifying the particular facility (in order for the department to be accountable for the foster care budget).
- 3) Though the probation officers continue to be county employees, all youth court placement decisions will be made by the department through use of an interagency youth placement committee including probation, the department, local schools, and local mental health professionals (probation officers continue supervision of their cases).
- 4) All state funds with federal and county match are in one department creating more flexibility for services and an opportunity for system-wide planning.
- 5) The new department will be decentralized in decision-making, moving financial decisions closer to case decisions.
- 6) There will be local service planning councils to develop local plans for a community-based service system with those plans feeding into a state planning council and state plan (the need for services as seen by the youth placement committees can then be included in the local plans and the state plan for service development).
- 7) The counties contributions for the child and adult protective services will be frozen at the 1987 expenditure level (adjusted for inflation), and the counties match for foster care would be reduced to 25% of the non-federal share over their 1987 expenditure level (adjusted for inflation)—with all future expansion being a burden to the state in exchange for cooperation in the implementation and development of a new, locally focused youth services system.
 - 8) In the House State Administration Committee, there was a concern from some of the smaller counties that their 1987 level in a foster care might be high due to one or two expensive placements. An amendment was passed to allow counties with FY 1987 foster care expenditure of less the \$10,000 county dollars to chose either the 1987 expenditure level or an average of 1985, 1986, and 1987 levels, whichever is less.

PAIR 3-11-8-7 GALLO HB 336

- 9) The addition of the youth placement committees was a result of the compromise returning the probation officers to county employee status. This addition actually strengthens the local involvement, creates the desired interagency effort on behalf of youth, and develops the catalyst for local plans for community-based services. Actual service needs will have a direct channel into the local plan and to the state plan for service development. Emergency and temporary placements under 45 days would not be included.
- 10) To respond to concerns from staff, an amendment was added that confirmed the intent to transfer current employees occupying positions being transferred from Institutions and SRS to the new department. Those transferred are protected from receiving a wage reduction upon transfer.

If you need further updates or have questions or input, please contact Gene Huntington at 444-3111 or Mary Blake at 444-5622.

DATE 3-1/=89 THINGS BILL NO. HB325 THINGS BILL NO. HB325 THINGS

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

HB #325

I have the following concerns with the implementation of HB-325 authorizing creation of a Family Services Agency. My primary concern is that quality human service delivery systems remain intact. Secondly that these services continue to be provided at a reasonable cost. And thirdly that as a human services manager, our tasks do not become complex, unworkable, and only a perpetuation of bureaucracy for the sake of bureaucrats.

Sepcifically -

By the creation of two agencies out of one - the State does not duplicate efficient and effective Administrative functions i.e. one more State Fiscal Bureau, one more State Personnel Office, and one more Legal Staff (for these will be additional positions which must be created at the expense of line service positions).

Duplication of local office support staff positions where one position currently carries out duties efficiently for entire County Office of Human Services i.e. Receptionist, Clerk Typist, Word Processing Operator, and Personnel Clerk as well as their Supervisors.

Also that adequate staffing patterns remain within Economic Assistance Programs on the County level where above positions will follow the Agency.

I am also concerned that quality staff at Supervisory and Administrative level in County, District, and State Offices may be lost to New Agency through transition process if input (as well as their job security) is not somehow insured more adequately than current memos.

Personally, I have formed no opinion against the creation of a New Agency. There is room for improvement in the delivery of services. This may be the vehicle to accomplish that. However, I remain concerned over the lack of detail in current transition plan. Once this is passed by the Legislature, the chance for input may not be present. I urge greater planning and sharing of information before an implementation date because then it will be impossible to go back.

B.S.B. O.H.S.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL & REHABILITATION SERVICES

DEER LODGE COUNTY OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES

3-11-87

HB325 PO BOX 1177 307 EAST PARK STREET



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

STATE OF MONTANA

(406) 563-3448

ANACONDA, MONTANA 59711

March 09, 1987

Honorable Jack Haffey 250 Anderson Helena, MT 59601

RE: HB 325

Dear Senator Haffey:

I am writing this letter to convey to you my concerns regarding HB 325 which creates a new State Department to handle all matters pertaining to youth.

I whole heartedly endorse the concept of a single agency to serve youth. However, I feel that HB 325 was hastily conceived and does not realistically address the problems incidental to immediate implementation, local control (or lack of control), the cost of implementation and decision making authority relating to placement of youth.

Knowledge of available treatment facilities and the cost of the same and the ability to evaluate treatment plans by professionals in relation to services provided by specified facilities is the essence of social service duties. To relegate this responsibility to a committee composed of representatives of the various agencies who provide such evaluation seems inappropriate. Since this committee is to serve without compensation and will be composed of professionals who are by the very nature of their jobs extremely busy and super involved, the time and commitment required for this kind of decision making will not realistically be available. It would seem more appropriate that this committee review the placement decisions made by the Department along with supporting documentation to justify the recommendation.

It is possible for an individual youth to be in need of care, in need of supervision, delinquent and emotionally disturbed and it is not unusual for two or more of these circumstances to exist. It would seem, therefore, that it would be necessary to establish priorities and to address these multiple problems accordingly. This is a case management function which essentially is the function of the Department.

The goal of Community based services for children and youth whenever possible is an excellent one, but the committee responsible for placement decision or as I have suggested, review of placement decisions, cannot realistically be expected to be involved in the development of community based services. This should be addressed by local county authorities either

3-11-87 1+B325

Senator Jack Haffey March 09, 1987 Page 2

directly or through the appointment of a committee. This could give local governments an opportunity to exercise some control over the cost of placements.

I would hope that this bill might be tabled and a study done on the administrative and financial structure of such a single agency to insure the successful implementation of such a program.

Very truly yours,

ANACONDA DEER LODGE COUNTY OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES

Eudora Fald County Director II

325/SS/s

cc: Mr. J.D. Lynch 1027 Eleventh Avenue

Helena, MT 59601

(This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.)

NAME:	Susan	Matthe	w		_DATE:_	3/11/87
	Box 84.	·		10 mm (10 mm) 10 mm) 10 mm (10		d
	232 - 780			BATTL	3-11-	
REPRESENT	ING WHOM?	Custer,	Pander Riv	er, GARFI	ειδ	
APPEARING	ON WHICH	PROPOSAL:_	HB 32	5		
DO YOU:	SUPPORT?		AMEND?		OPPOSE?	
COMMENT:	Les	timony is	in the s	nail Ve	wal feat	inony
1) Rec	governmen	using existe		ung - do	sit creat	te new stat
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PLEASE]	LEAVE ANY	PREPARED ST	TATEMENTS	WITH THE	COMMITTE	E SECRETARY

(This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.)

ME: JOREST & SYBRANT	DATE: 3-11-8)
DRESS: <u>GALLATIN</u> COUNTY	STATE A TO SELLE
ONE: 585-1420	DATE 3-11-87 BILL NO. 413 335
PRESENTING WHOM? GALLATIN County	
PEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: H4555	
YOU: SUPPORT?AMEND?	OPPOSE?
OMMENT:	
,	
PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH	THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY



GALLATIN COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Room 300 Gallatin County Courthouse Bozeman, Montana 59715 Phone: (406) 585-1420

March 9, 1987

Montana State Senate Committee of State Administration

Re: Testimony House Bill 325

Members of This Committee:

I have read and studied this bill. I have all kinds of problems seeing any advantages. Call this bill what it really is "State Assumption of Social Services". Will setting up a new agency cost less and deliver better services? I think not! It has not been proven by past experience. This new state agency will in my opinion cost more State General Fund Dollars as well as county property tax dollars.

We have in place under present administrative structure a more locally-oriented process. Right now when a child is placed in foster care the County Social Worker Supervisor approves this placement at the front end. If it is a court-ordered placement the judge, probation officer, and county attorney also review at local level. It then goes to a District SRS Supervisor for review then onto SRS Community Services. I can't think of a better way to review and have the checks and balances needed to assure proper placement of children. Also, from an administrative local review the County Commissioners and County Director sign off on the placement with budget authority and responsibility. We have local child abuse teams to help with planning for difficult placements and it is a federal mandate to have Foster Care Review Committees on all children placed in foster care for six months or more. I say to you this is as local as you can get.

We in Gallatin County have no problem with foster care expenditures. As a matter of fact most Counties do not have a problem. Why change the system when maybe the problem is only in a few locations. Don't consume us all because of a few. Give us the option to stay with what has and does work.

Thank you,

Robert K. Sybrant, County Director

RKS/jd

Suggested aninoments

1. Bury Probation book into But

2. Cap Caunty expenditures (no additional of sure options)

3. Singues on options

COUNTY TOTAL FOSTER CARE COSTS FYE 1986 SOURCE: FUNDING MIX SCHEDULES SCFILE: FC86 RNE 2/17/87

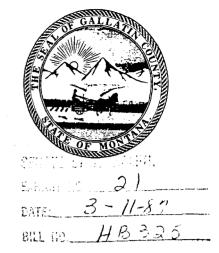
3-11-89 H13325

		TOTAL	FEDERAL FUNDS	GENERAL FUNDS	COUNTY FUNDS
1	Beaverhead	39,284	2,075	22,727	14,482
5	Bighorn	- 43,413	66	31,124	12,224
3	Blaine	60,545	16,798	41,830	21,917 🗸
4	Broadwater	26,896	61	15,315	11,520
5	Carbon	42,820	1,139	28,428	13,204
6 7*		34,910	23,002	5,954	5,95 <u>4</u>
	Cascade 🗸 Choteau	916,534	201,692	714,892	. 0
9		2,269	55	1,107	1,107
	Custer Daniels	85,411	30,957	40,041	14,413
	Dawson	3,427		3,427	0
121	Deer Lodge	62,870	13,041	28,665	21,164
13	Fallon	119,234 5,387	35,369	83,865	0
	Fergus	108,508	1,282 6,304	2,133	1,972
15%	Flathead	317,057	6,304	52,574	49,630 V
16	Gallatin	167,859	44,625	272,432	10.00
17	Garfield	30,643	20,696 0	££,215	60,946
18	Glacier	191,919	78,053	29,432	2,211
19	Golden Valley	2,2,72,	70,033	93,851	20,015
20	Granite	8,919	3,582	0 2,668	0 2,668
	Hill	132,038	9,844	23,901	38,344
	Jefferson	13,996	7,5,1	11,121	2,875
53	Judith Basin	592	Ŏ	296	296
24*	Lake /	236,518	27,537	208,981	1,0
251	Lewis & Clark V	578,522	29,374	549,148	Ŏ
26	Liberty	. 0	,0	0 , 1 . 0	Õ
27*	Lincoln	173,342	14,771	158,571	Ö
	Madison	16,322	0	8,664	7,658
	McCone	756	502	127	127
30	Heagher	15,872	0	8,373	7,498
	Mineral	11,203	2,218	8,985	0
	Hissoula 🗸	654,635	131,622	523,013	0
	Husselshell	22,335	7,910	7,213	7,213
	Park	91,812	4,170	87,642	, 0 ,
	Petroleum	1,007	0	504	504
	Phillips	46,213	5,819	31,914	8,479
	Pondera	30,968	5,573	17,650	7,744
38	Powder River	12,892	3,391	4,751	4,751
	Powell Posicio	54,604	5,965	48,637	0 ·
	Prairie Ravalli	3,322	2,188	567	567
	Richland	172,300	13,038	159,262	0
	Roosevelt	149,739	42,771	55,636	51,332
	Rosebud	62,696	9,280	30,819	22,598
45	Sanders	137,834 35,270	75,452 2 731	51,989	10,393
46	Sheridan /	27,819	2,731 1,631	21,342 14,290	11,197
	Silver Bow V	141,660	1,631 15,350	126,310	11,899 0
43	Stillwater	67,319	23,854	24,886	18,579
49	Sweetgrass	7,949	213	3,868	3,868
50	Teton	3,902	290	1,822	1,790
51	Toole	43,849	1,576	26,248	16,025
52	Treasure	896	-,5.0	448	448
53	Valley	152,952	30,887	69,561	52,504
54	Wheatland	2,091	0	1,046	1,046
55	Wibaux	4,310	0	2,155	2,155
56	Yellowstone	1,609,066	212,246	790,767	606,053
		7,004,604	1,159,051	4,696,185	1,149,368
				.======================================	=======================================
_	ACCUMEN COUNTIES	B A1=		:	
*	ASSUMED COUNTIES	3,467,470	525,732	2,941,738	. 0
	NON ASSUMED	3,537,134	633,319	1,754,446	1,149,368

State of Montana

County of Gallatin, 419 Bozeman 1319

February 20, 1987



To all Ligislator

We have just returned from our Montana Association of County meeting and would like to make you aware of our position on HB 325. We voted on a resolution which stated "do not support, or support" said bill. Thirty three counties voted "do not support". Three voted "for support".

We ask you for your support AGAINST HB 325.

Sincerely,

GALLATIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MAMMAN

1

Jane Jelinski, Member

Tamon Pul

lm

State of Montana Office of the Governor Gelena, Montana 59620 406-444-3111

Fe3 : 2017 |

TED SCHWINDEN GOVERNOR

February 6, 1987

21 3-11-87 HB325

Chairman
Gallatin County Commissioners
P. O. Box 1905
Bozeman, MT 59715

Dear Chairman:

I would like to update you on the proposed Family Services Department. There are several misconceptions about the new department that also need to be addressed.

Most of the confusion relates to local financing. Probation funding and in-kind contributions are no longer issues since a recent compromise returns probation officers to their current county employee status.

Integral to the proposal are the Governor's Council's recommendations to:

- * make decisions on service delivery and service availability closer to the local level; and
- * continue current funding sources and levels, with all growth being the responsibility of the state.

HB 325 and its amendments would:

- 1) freeze county contributions for protective services salaries, travel and administration at the 1987 expenditure level and
- 2) provide for a reduction from 50% to 25% of the non-federal share of foster care expenditures above the 1987 expended level.

Counties would continue to be billed using current methods. We have also prepared an amendment for Rep. Stratford that would give counties with less than \$15,000 expenditures for foster care, the option of having their portion frozen at the 1987 level or at the average of the last three years. That amendment affects 27 counties.

It was the intent of both the Council and the Governor that county government be offered some financial relief for the youth services system in the future. If that is not acceptable to local officials, we can move to have the caps and reductions removed. Please let me know your preference.

EXE 3-11-87 BILL 110. HB 325

Chairman Gallatin County Commissioners February 6, 1987 Page Two

The bill as amended does move the decisions on specific placements of youth court cases to the department and an interagency placement committee. Accountability for funding and services are consolidated. Local control of services is provided through local service planning councils. Administration is decentralized. The beginnings of a true child and youth services system are emerging and will be clearly evident in the very near future.

We cannot let the perceived problems and confusion caused by a lack of information stand between us and creating a locally controlled, accountable system to deal with the growing number of troubled young people in Montana.

I will be glad to further discuss these or other issues with you.

Sincerely

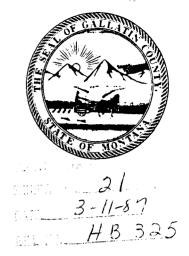
GENE HUNTINGTON

State of Montana

County of Gallatin

Bozeman

March 5, 1987



We are writing in regards to House Bill 325 which is scheduled for hearing on March 11th at 10:00 A.M.

As you can see from the attached correspondance, Custer County, Garfield County and Powder River County all take a dim view of HB 325 for reasons clearly defined within. Those opinions are NOT theirs alone. We can show that it is the unanimous decision of Montana Counties to support the defeat of this bill.

We wish to emphasize our disapproval, and strongly urge you to <u>VOTE AGAINST HB 325</u>.

We also greatly appreciate your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

GALLATIN COUNTY COMMISSION

Wilbur Visser, Chairman

(absent)

Jane Jelinski, Member

Ramon S. White, Member



041 3-11-8 9 BILL ID HB 325

County of Custer

Custer County Courthouse 1010 Main MILES CITY, MONTANA 59301

March 3, 1987

Dear Commissioners,

The attached letter was mailed to all the members of the Senate Administration Committee.

The hearing for House Bill 325 is scheduled for March 11th at 10:00 a.m. We urge you to attend this hearing if at all possible.

We ask that you support our action by whatever means you deem appropriate. It is imperative that this committee hear your concerns.

Sincerely,

Ted Hirsch, Chairman

Custer County Commissioner

Bruce Bergerson Member

Custer County Commissioner

Michael O'Shea, Member

Custer County Commissioner



County of Custer

Custer County Courthouse 1010 Main MILES CITY, MONTANA 59301

March 3, 1987

Dear Senaton

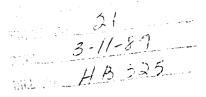
We are writing to express our concerns relative to House Bill 325 which creates a new department in state government entitled "Family Services Department".

This bill is being heralded as the answer to all of the problems of our youth in Montana. The impetus of this bill was to consolidate the responsibility and authority for all youth services into a single agency. The original motives were good, however, as the bill exists in its current form, services to youth and their families are more fragmented, local county fiscal control and authority is removed, and services to the rural counties will be diminished.

In these days of fiscal austerity, it does not make sense to create a new bureaucracy which will obviously cost the taxpayers more dollars. Although the current proposal states that no new dollars will be required, common sense tells us this is a fallacy. The bill is replete with cost shifting and duplicative administrative functions already being provided by existing agencies.

We have met with Gene Huntington on several occasions to examine the specifics of this bill. We have received no satisfactory answers relative to the actual implementation of this bill. The standard response we have received is that he will meet with each of the counties after the bill is passed to discuss how it will work in each county. We feel a proposal of this magnitude should certainly have received more forethought, community planning and input.

We do not see this bill as improving services to youth and it certainly does not provide the capability to serve more youth. Thus, the question at hand is why create a new department when positive changes can be made to the existing system without the chaos and confusion and uncertainty that is inevitable with this bill.



We as Custer Commissioners urge you to vote NO on HB 325.

The current fiscal and program accountability that we have will be removed. This bill is clearly an example of state assumption and the state's record in that area is poor at best. In those counties where state assumption has already occurred, the cost of welfare has risen beyond control. We certainly do not want to see this occur statewide.

The Montana Association of Counties during their mid-winter meeting in Helena, voted 33 - 3 not to support this bill. The Montana Association of County Directors has joined us in voicing their opposition.

We now ask that you join us as well by voting against this bill.

We thank you for your time and hard work during this most difficult session.

Sincerely,

Bruce Bergerson	Custer County Commissioner
Ted Hirsch	Custer County Commissioner
Michael T. O'Shea	Custer County Commissioner
minute it o oned	cased: coarroy commissioner

Kenneth Coulter Garfield County Commissioner
April Milroy Garfield County Commissioner
Lester Engdahl Garfield County Commissioner

Brooks Study Powder River County Commissioner
Ted Fletcher Powder River County Commissioner
Gerald Himelspach Powder River County Commissioner

cc: Senator Ed Smith
Senator Tveit
Senator Weeding
Senator Aklestad
MACO

RULES

Chairman: Fred Van Valkenburg, (D), Missoula Vice Chairman: George McCallum, (R), Plains

Members:

Bill Norman, (D), Missoula Gary Aklestad, (R), Galata Judy Jacobson, (D), Butte William Farrell, (R), Missoula Chet Blaylock, (D), Laurel Matt Himsl, (R), Kalispell

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**Ethel Harding, (R), Polson

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**A'Sam Hofman, (R), Manhattan

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**Tom Rasmasson, (R), Helance

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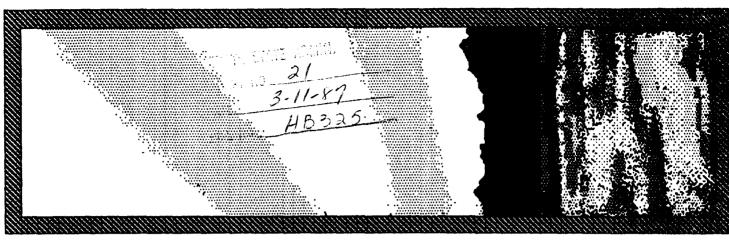
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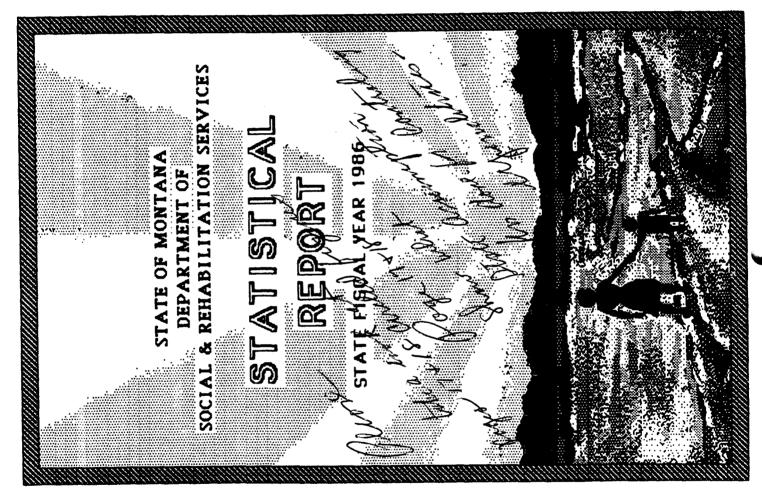
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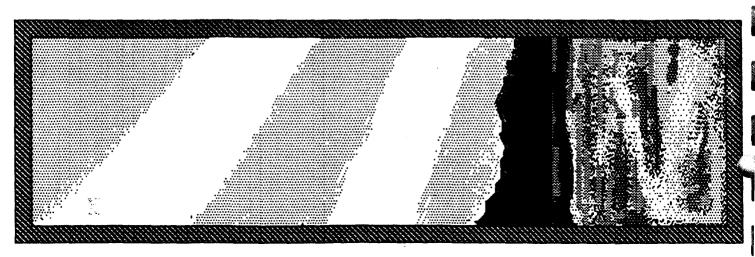
QUESTIONS CONCERNING HB 325 DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES LEGISLATION February 10, 1987

- Originally HB 325 was set up at least partially to aid in controlling the Youth Court foster care budget. Since the probation officers have lobbied well and had themselves excluded from the new agency, the question is: what services are being combined and why? Why do we need a new agency?
- 2. HB 325 proposes that the Youth Court can commit children to the new department for placement. Will not the removal of responsibility for placements increase the numbers of placements made by Youth Courts? Without increase staff how will Family Services speedily process their already existing responsibility for placement of abused children plus adding a new category of serious offenders?
- 3. One of the major issues in HB 325 is that county level of expenditures will be frozen at 1987 levels, and that counties' participation in foster care will be reduced from 50 to 25%. Increased numbers of placements will increase county expenditures as well as state expenditures. Does not this bill actually dilute local control? This smacks of state assumption.

A wat Sylvan







STATE OF MONTANA SOCIAL & REHABILITATION SERVICES P. O. BOX 4210 HELENA, MT 59604 DETT, OF PUBLIC WELFARE

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COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Robert L. Mullen, Chairman
David R. McMillen, Vice-Chairman
Eugene Iversen, Member

COUNTY OF RICHLAND
OFFICE OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SIDNEY, MONTANA

March 11, 1987

HELEN GIERKE, Clerk

DILE 10 H B 3 3 5

Mr. Jack Haffey, Chairman Senate State Administration

Re: HB325 (Mercer)

Chairman Haffey and members of the committee, for the record I am David McMillen, a Richland County Commissioner, and on behalf of the Richland County taxpayers we are opposed to HB325.

The objective of this legislation, that is, centralizing the authority and responsibility for all youth services in Montana, seems to be well-intended. But, the creation of an entire new level of bureaucracy will not create any savings to address the real problem... the capacity to serve more youth. To restructure youth services for the convenience of those administrating the programs seems a limited effect on the problem. The mere fact of assuming future costs should freighten every legislator in the room. Surely costs will continue to increase in the future, look at the state's recent "buy-in" experience associated with the "state-assumed counties". It is very difficult for us to understand how changing the name sign over the door will provide more funds for youth in need. HB325 creates more question than provides answers to the problem.

This legislation will have a negative impact on our ability to analyze needs and fund budgets at local levels. We are not aware that we are not meeting the needs of local youth with the various programs that are now in place in Richland County. If there are, we are committed to funding those needs. It is our responsibility. Decisions regarding budgets and personnel would be done elsewhere under this bill. We prefer the present, (even though limited) partnership situation. Local control is important to us.

Perhaps the most frightening aspect of HB325 is that of uncertainty of the future. We do not trust future legislature's to honor the committments of their predecessors. Recent examples such as less than full-funding of the Local Government Block Grant Program and potentially

welching on the state-assumed counties welfare programs leave less than desirable reinforcement for placing ourselves at the mercy of some future legislatures. With the revenue problems that all taxing jurisdictions are experiencing, we quite simply do not trust the unknown intentions of future legislature's.

NAME: Donnie Flo	olman	DATE: Work 11, 198
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PHONE: 266-3029		DAIL
REPRESENTING WHOM?	conducter County	Social LING HB 325
APPEARING ON WHICH PROP		
DO YOU: SUPPORT?	AMEND?	OPPOSE?
COMMENTS: See attack	ad letter	
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PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

3-11-8-7 3-11-8-7 3-11-8-7

Dear Ladies & Gentleman,

My name is Gonnie Holman. I am the County Director of Broadwater County Human Services in Townsend. As a part of my role in Broadwater County I deliver direct social services as the sole social worker in the country. Because administratively my concerns are very similar to those shared by other county directors you have and will continue to hear from today, I come to you instead as a social worker in a rural county. I am deeply concerned with the delivery of services to high risk children & adults especially in sparsely populated areas of Montana where community resources are sparse or in some cases, non-existant. I come to you with a variety of experience. Some of which includes nearly eight years as a social worker in Lewis & Clark County Where community resources were plentiful and readily accessible. Since I come to Groadwater County some two & one-half years ago I have had the experience of often being the only resource. Defore I came to Broadwater County services were being delivered out of the Helena Wistrick Office in a cotch as cotch can fashion. Many children desperately needing services were going

unserved, not because of a lack of caring

on anyones part but rather an inability to appropriately deliver from afar. Us a result of being in Groadwater County and being responsive to the concerns of the community, the caseload has & continues to grow. The growth has some from high risk children and adults that had previously gone unserved. The point I am attempting to make is that there must be a local committeent from a local community services agency if we are to adequately serve high risk Children and adults. There must be local control of bocal services. Someone must be willing to keep their finger of the sulse of the community as a part of that community. I fear that because the details of the proposed Department of Family Services have not been hammered out prior to the drafting of House Bill 325 that we are at risk of becoming centralized in the delivery of services. As a result of the centralization much needed services in rural Montana may diminish and "at risk" children and adults will go unserved.

I am not opposed to a better continuant of services. I also recognize that the current structure is not infalible. But, if we are going to change let's be sure beforehand that it is indeed an improvement over the current

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structure. The notion of "we will work it out later" is absurd.

T propose that those individuals responsible for the development of House Bill 325 go back to the drawing board, seek grassroot input and solicit support from those individuals who will be most affected by the impact of a bill such as House Bill 325.

Thank you,

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Bonno Holman

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24 2002 3-11-87 HB325

There is currently before your committee a proposal for reorganization of the Youth

Services delivery system; specifically, creation of a new agency - Dept. of Family

Services.

Junetically employed by

Jam Brunett representing 23 people Social Service Stage

from great races

We have expressed concerns about this reorganization proposal since it was introduced to the legislative committees. I call your attention to a copy of our 1-15-87 letter to the House Committee on Human Services and Aging.

The one glaring question is - WHAT IS SO WRONG WITH THE PRESENT DELIVERY SYSTEM TO OUR YOUTH THAT REQUIRES THIS TYPE OF MAJOR REORGANIZATION? WHY NOT ADDRESS THOSE SPECIFIC PROBLEMS AND ISSUES WITHIN THE PRESENT SYSTEM?

Brought forth repeatedly as validation of the need for reorganization is the present fragmentation of services to Montana youth. However, since the original drafting of this legislation, there has been the amending of the proposal to <u>exclude</u> Juvenile Probation from being part of the Dept. of Family Services. The agreement to exclude the probation officers resulted in the creation of local placement review committees. We suggest to you that this is continuous fragmentation of services, while adding a new layer of bureacracy.

We recognize and acknowledge that the present youth services system has some fragmentation problems in its present form, and we do not oppose reorganization if it will correct these problems. We do <u>not</u> believe, however, that the proposed Dept. of Family Services will correct these deficiencies, and realistically may cost even more money to operate. If the family dept. is implemented, as written, services to youth will be even more fragmented by delays in delivery of services, due to the addition of the review committee who will need to decide what is needed for a youth, who is to give them, and at what cost.

In order for any services to be effective we feel the social workers and supervisors who will be implementing and monitoring these services should know who, what, where, when,

3-11-81 HB325

why, and how. We do not feel we were involved in the decision making process, including identification of problem areas in the youth services delivery system, that led to the proposed Dept. of Family Services. I'm sure you recognize the need for grass roots input. For example, The Governor's Council on Reorganization of Youth Services ignored two significant populations currently receiving services thru C.S.D. Adult Protective.

Services were added at the last minute because of a need to continue use of that funding. Services to the Developmentally Disabled population - which crosses all ages - have not been addressed. One fourth the service staff in Cascade County Office of Human Services provides social services to developmentally disabled individuals. Much more thought should

are represented the derector advisory counsell.

The statement that creation of a Dept. of Family Services will not cost any more money than the present delivery system has not been explained to our satisfaction. We have repeate asked how a new department can realistically not cost more money for startup costs, i.e. telephones, supplies, additional administrative staff. It is our understanding the emphals will be on community based services but there are no funds budgeted for increasing these services. Meetings with Gene Huntington and others have not answered these questions but only bring about further concerns in our minds for this proposal. I call your attention to a 3-6-87 letter we sent to each of you specifically expressing our concerns about funding

In conclusion, please consider that if our present youth services system is so awkward and unmanageable, why is there such a strong positive position in support of maintaining our present system by the very persons - the social workers - who work in the system. We are not objecting to change if it will increase the quality of services at equal if not less cost to the state. We do not believe the change as proposed in the creation of a Dept. of Family Services will bring about this change.

The following persons have endorsed this presentation and include their job speciality.

24 3-11-87 PAGE 3 BIL 110 48325 Signatures of persons in agreement: Beatrice G. Hilten, Supermon Intake Unit for Child; adult Protective Ser Mari Claid sexual stock worker Jan Schnidele-utake worker in childand adeelt proketine Allerees
(Nors), Mellott - Adult Protection and DD WORKER.

Marsia Brunett-Social worker for developmentally developmentally

Varen & Corda, social worker I disabled case load

Mul h. lory - Social Worker II disabled case load Ingrid libyren - intolec modern in chies and adult protective David Sturm - Social Worker Superinson II Veli Pemus - intake worker in child and about poketra services James Johnson - sexual a brise worker Donnie Flenten - Home Allendork Julake Marken Mebra K. Stokes, Supist III Kandy Louting SWIII, James Treatment Cloud Madeline Fitzpatrick, SWIII, Family Frestment Unit Joan Duncon, S. WIII Child abuse Intake Unit Therry Lunney, Rypict II Barbaia J. Simpson, SWSII adult-Elderly, Ennotionally eller Katricia lessmen Adult-Elderly, Ennotionally eller Developmentaly Dissabled I auline Slade SWII Child Protection Servies, Family Trestment Unit. Sala Dohnson SWI adult Photestive Services & DD Meney Vallanes Olumender SWII Treat

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March 6, 1987

Dear Senator

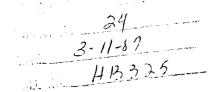
Attached is a copy of a letter in which we expressed our concerns about House Bill 325. This letter was submitted prior to any hearings and before the bill was passed by the House.

Since that time it has passed, as you well know, but with significant compromise which leaves juvenile probation out of the new department. The omission, even for a period of two years, does not solve the problem of fragmentation which was supposed to be the primary reason for reorganization.

Another part of the compromise is a local "Placement Review Committee" consisting of a representative from the Department, Youth Court Services, Mental Health and the local school system. This introduces another level of involvement by "the system" that has not been present before. Mental Health and the school system have not been involved in placement decisions before. Experience has also shown us that inter-agency efforts of this type have not been successful. There are always problems due to scheduling difficulties and lack of commitment. Rather than ensuring control of placements, this committee could become a hindrance to effective and efficient placement procedure.

There are many unanswered questions and concerns. A few more are:

- 1. Where will the funds for the Regional Directors salaries come from?
- 2. What consideration is being made for start-up monies for community-based placement resources? Without developing new placement resources we cannot possibly move youth out of institutions or out of the more expensive residential programs, nor do we have the resources to place more youth in community settings.
- 3. If Community Services Division personnel, administration, supervisors, and social workers are the experts in these service areas, why have they not been involved in the development of the proposed new department?



The proposed reorganization and development of a new department, as it is presently being submitted, does not resolve existing problems, nor does it assure more efficient service delivery.

Please consider House Bill 325 very carefully.

Thank you for your consideration,

Keli Remus Jour Claid Ingrid Wagner

3-11-87 4B325

The Honorable Representative Bud Gould, Chairman House Committee on Human Services and Aging Capital Station
Helona, MT 59620

Dear Chairman Gould:

We have grave concerns regarding the enabling legislation for the proposed Department of Family Services and urge you to:

- 1. Carefully consider all aspects of the legislation.
- 2. Request testimony from social workers and probation officers who will be impacted by this legislation.
- 3. Evaluate the budget presented for the proposed department.

Several rationales have been advanced to justify the need to reorganize the youth services system. These have included allegations that the current system is so fragmented many youth in need of services are not receiving services; lack of cooperation between Community Services Division of SRS and juvenile probation officers; lack of alternatives to institutional care; lack of after-care services; lack of services to emotionally disturbed youth; and youth court judges ordering placement in residential treatment centers at the expense of SRS. While these allegations have some basis in fact, the existing service delivery system is more efficient than it has ever been. The children who are truly at risk or in imminent danger are receiving services. The creation of a new Department of Family Services would not resolve any existing problems and would certainly create a myriad of new problems.

Of primary concern is the statement that the new department would serve more youth in the community rather than institutions, with no increase in funding for community based services. There is no indication of how this would be done and, in fact, the proposal contains a statement that the council does not intend to expand the current services. We do not currently have an adequate number of community-based placement resources in our local communities or in the state.

The lack of services to emotionally disturbed youth is also tied into the limited funding sources. Community Mental Health Centers and private practioners provide appropriate, adequate services to those who are able to remain in the community. Those emotionally disturbed youth who are in need of residential treatment are sometimes denied services due to lack of funds. In the past, while funding was available, CPI, SRS, and local school districts made residential treatment placements as needed. Currently residential treatment center's costs range from \$2,000.00 to \$5,000.00 per month. Neither individually nor collectively, can OPI, SRS or local school districts fund residential treatment for all emotionally disturbed youth. In some cases youth court judges have ordered SRS to pay for residential treatment programs when all other options have been exhausted. The new department does not show how this system will be improved or how additional funds will be developed to serve these emotionally disturbed youth who are not currently receiving services. Placements for 24-hour intensive treatment are necessary-unavoidable.

While there may be some benefits to having all youth services programs under one umbrella agency, it appears this could create additional problems and would also require massive changes in existing legislation. It appears the council did not recognize many of these readily identifiable problem areas.

Community Services Division provides services to abused/neglected children up to age 18 under civil statutes. Juvenile probation officers and Juvenile Institutions serve youth up to age 21 under criminal statutes. The proposed department does not address how, or when, the civil and criminal statutes will be changed and/or combined to allow the child to be served by one agency. CSD does not have enough social work staff to provide additional services other than what is currently provided to abused/neglected children and adults and developmentally disabled individuals. Neither CSD nor Juvenile Probation has legal authority to provide services to youth who are not in need of care or supervision or are not adjudicated delinquent.

Limited funding is directly responsible for current problems in the youth services delivery system and this problem will be compounded by the lack of adequate funding in the budget presented for the Department of Family Services. There are no funds requested for startup costs. It is assumed existing local agencies, i.e. youth courts, County Human Services Offices, and county governments, will continue to provide office space, equipment, supplies and clerical support at no cost to the department. There has been no acceptance of this by any county agency to our knowledge. Funding is not requested for writing manuals, staff training or developing, and staffing a new centralized intake system. No recognition is given to salary disparity. There is a wide discrepancy among the salaries of Community Service Division social workers and juvenile probation officers and institutional social workers for comparable job responsibilities. It would appear reasonable to expect appeals from any workers who were in the joint system who were not being paid as much as other workers in the system. No funds are requested to meet this anticipated cost.

Local control has not worked well in many counties in the past. Nothing within the proposal suggests a more efficient strategy for implementing services.

The report prepared by the Council on Reorganization of Youth Services leaves numerous questions unanswered.

Swill Swill

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ADDRESS:_	Box	763	FT BEN	TON	— <u>26 — </u>
PHONE:	622-	5165			5-/1-87
APPEARING	ON WHICH	PROPOSAL:_	H.B. 32	5	
DO YOU:	SUPPORT?		AMEND?	OPPOSE?	<u>X</u>
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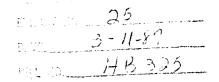
PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

25 3-11-89 HB325

My name is Diann Button and I have been a social worker for Chouteau County S.R.S. for 8 years. As you may know, Chouteau County is one of the less populated counties and therefore is one of many in the State who only have one social worker available to provide services. I come to you with my concerns about how I foresee some of the changes that may occur by the passing of H.B. 325 and how it would affect the provision of services in many counties.

One of my major concerns involves the continuity of services to the clients. In working with troubled families, a social worker must identify the stress areas and proceed to help alleviate some of those stresses. Since the majority of my clients are low-income individuals, I work closely with economic assistance staff to address the financial needs of the client. With a separation of agencies I would no longer have that close working relationship and availability of economic assistance information. The time and paper work involved to facilitate the coordination of those services would negatively affect the quality of services to the client.

Our agency currently functions on the premise that when the social worker in the smaller counties is not available, the County Director often times assumes those responsibilities that require immediate attention. With the proposed separation of economic assistance and social services this would not be possible. We will loose manpower and the clients needs will not be met in a timely fashion. When dealing with physical abuse and neglect, immediate response is often necessary and that will no longer be possible. It appears that this



lack of coverage will not only occur when the social worker is on Bullow when the social worker is on Bullow when the schools of the leave, A attending training or spending days in the schools of the county presenting abuse prevention and education programs. I suspect we will eventually eliminate some of the services we now provide because of lack of manpower.

As a rural social worker, I am also responsible for case management of services to the developmentally disabled individuals. There is some history of conflict of philosophy between the D.D. staff and social services which fortunately has often been resolved by agency administration. If we are to continue to provide the same level of services, but as representatives of two different agencies, I see the intensifying of the conflict. The majority of D.D. staff are located in district offices and some times request assistance from social workers in their screening process that saves them time, travel, money and expedites the services to the D.D. individual. Those kinds of informal agreements would not continue if we were separated into two agencies.

I understand that one purpose of H.B. 325 is to provide for more local control through the use of placement review committees and advisory boards. Our county is included in the 12th Judicial District and is comprised of three counties, the most populated being Hill County. As is the situation with most smaller counties who are included in districts with larger towns, most of the district level decisions are controlled by the more populated counties. We are currently serviced by the District Judge one day every two weeks and he is one of the

25 3-11-87 LHB325

individuals responsible for appointing those committee and board members. I am certain that the representatives for our district would be dominated by representatives from Havre and therefore we would have less local control over placement. I think you will find this is a common dilemma in many counties.

In conclusion, I feel the concept of a family service agency is a good one for a long-term goal. My concerns are that the current plan seems to leave too many unresolved questions that will ultimately bring about a decrease in services.

Thank you.

(This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.)

NAME: Bonie Comp	Vol	DATE: <u>03/11/8</u> /
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PHONE: 357-2276	2	DATE3-11-89
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APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL	HB 325	
DO YOU: SUPPORT?	AMEND?	OPPOSE? X
COMMENT:		
PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED	STATEMENTS WITH	THE COMMITTEE SECRETAR

March 11, 1987

TO: Senator Jack Haffey, Chair, and Senators Hubert Abrams, John Anderson, Vice Chair William Farrell, Ethel Harding, Les Hirsch, Sam Hofman, J.D. Lynch, Tom Rasmussen, and Eleanor Vaughn, members of the Senate Standing Committee on State Administration.

FROM: J. Burt Annin, J.D.

RE: Opposition to H. B. 325, Department of Family Services Bill

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, being represented here today by proxy, my name is Burt Annin. I began working in child welfare law as an attorney for the Department of SRS in 1978. I am currently director of the Southeast Resource Center for Children and Youth Services located at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. In this capacity I serve as coordinator of SESAC, the South East State Agency Consortia, an of child welfare administrators representing organization southeastern states. Previously, as Director of the Region VIII Family Resource Center in Denver, Colorado, I served in the same capacity for the child welfare administrators of the six states which comprise the federally-designated region. In these forums, state child welfare administrators discuss issues of mutual concern and lend problem-solving assistance to each other. HB 325 raises several issues which these forums have discussed. This testimony will share with you concerns raised in other states which have contemplated or undertaken similar measures.

I had the opportunity to moderate an informal, fact-finding forum involving SESAC and the U.S. House of Representatives Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Assistance and Unemployment. *Public Law 96-272*, the federal law which guides child welfare services, originated in that committee which continually seeks information regarding needs for child welfare reform. During the forum child welfare administrators agreed without exception that improved linkages between youth services and child welfare services, particularly child protective services, is a

3-11-8" HB32

critical issue. Too often, they reported, courts grant custody of extraordinarily disturbed youth to child protection agencies in *ex parte* hearings, that is to say custody is transferred to an agency not present or represented at the proceedings. In an exasperating search for appropriate services, the care of these youth is transferred to the child protection agency as the resource of last resort. If nothing else, it seems to be assumed that IV-E foster care and medicaid eligibility will help. However, as you know, use of federal IV-E dollars is conditional. Whether or not these kids can be qualified for IV-E funded services, the court-ordered custodian, the child welfare agency, must locate services. That's okay. These kids must be served.

But they are not well served when as "hot potatoes" they are tossed from agency to agency. I say "hot" potatoes because when dollars are scarce, agencies try to save their own resources, and these kids are expensive. They are too "hot", too expensive, to handle. Getting some other entity to assume financial responsibility for these troubled youth saves the transferring agency resources in terms of staff time and dollars. This sad-but-true scenario exists in all 14 states with whom I have worked.

It is not hard to sell the idea that the potential custodian of a child or youth should be a participant in a custody proceeding. Prior planning, appropriate referrals and client advocacy require it. But it doesn't happen. I believe that proponents of HB 325 intend that passing the bill will make possible achieving this goal. It takes more than a bill. It takes lots of bills, green ones. We're talking money.

Nationwide the demand for child protective services continues to increase steadily while public funds decrease at the same time. Federal dollars, especially indirect appropriations like resource development dollars and grants, have been reduced to barely twenty percent of the 1980

3-11-89 HB 325

level. The current financial crisis and economic conditions in Montana do not enable the state to make up the resulting deficits. Now is NOT the time to undertake a massive reorganization. Such reorganizations cost lots of money. Montana doesn't have it. Staff reductions combine with increased need for services to put more demands on agency personnel. Reorganization will take lots of time. Human services staff don't have it.

The child protective service delivery system is already over stressed.

Change produces lots of stress both in personnel and clients. Stress is a precipitating factor in abuse and neglect. Now is not the time to change. Experience in other states can provide some insights as to why not.

As part of the subcommittee's fact-finding forum, Patricia Jones from the Alabama Department of Human Services reported that legislation mandating reorganization in Alabama contained no special appropriation to support the effort. As a result entire units ceased to function because they didn't know their function. Staff from one abolished management unit went for two months without assignments or clear job descriptions. Transition planning was insufficient. Clearly, if these mid-level managers didn't know their function, field staff didn't know when or even whether to access them for supervisory and program support. While some administrators knew what those people's jobs should and would be under the new system, their own tasks associated with simultaneous administration and reorganization left them without time to get the message to these state agency staff.

Without money the agency was limited to managing the reorganization by memo rather than by process. No funds were available to support necessary team building, policy workshops, and multi-unit education and coordination meetings. The precious few dollars dedicated to training were needed to build and enhance the knowledge, skills and abilities of

staff providing direct services and intervention.

26 3-11-87 4 B 325

The reorganization did happen because it had to. It was legislated. The lack of an additional appropriation to fund the transition wound up being costly in worker productivity and morale. As a result the effort is still bogged down for lack of staff "buy-in". Staff are disinclined to cooperate in a reorganization which causes them more problems than it offers solutions. Alabama learned the hard way that administrators' diligence and planning cannot compensate for funds to support reorganization.

South Carolina's experience of merging agencies more closely approximates what HB 325 contemplates than does Alabama's experience reorganizing a single agency.

Motivated by the possibility of upgrading standards for the delivery of services to children and families, South Carolina attempted to form a separate children's agency. Ira Barbell, South Carolina's child welfare administrator reported that an in-depth planning process which included extensive input from the field, mid-management and administration of the four agencies involved revealed more problems than solutions.

South Carolina found that the configuration which places economic assistance and child welfare services in a single agency, as SRS, does gives single administrative authority over linkages for delivery of concrete services. Attempts to separate the professional services provided by social workers from concrete financial assistance played into the public's misperception of social worker's as professionals whose job it is to "fix" people's dysfunction. What many clients need most immediately are concrete services for food, shelter, and medical assistance if the family is to be stabilized by short-term, minimal intervention. The combination of professional counselling and concrete services is what works best, South Carolina found.

Their experience revealed that creating a separate state department would create a children and family services budget much more vulnerable to cuts than the one within the multi-dimentional agencies in place. An across-the-board budget cut of five per cent would have a greater impact on protective services for victims of abuse and neglect within a specialized agency where cuts are less easily managed to protect the most vulnerable who are more likely to be repeatedly victimized by an agency's reduced capacity to protect. The economies of scale would be lost. And, South Carolina found that creating a new administrative entity would increase administrative costs even though it appeared to be created by transfer of units with in-tact administrative budgets.

South Carolina also found great financial risk in separating the eligibility determination unit (economic assistance in Montana) from the social services unit. Federal administrative requirements, if not met, can cost the state hundreds of thousands of dollars in disallowances. Managing federal dollars for maximum flexibility requires close, concurrent administration of IV-E dollars and IV-A services.

Federal and state law and policy require agencies to provide services to prevent removal of victims of abuse and neglect from their homes. The most severely injured or dysfunctional often require institutionalization. South Carolina found that over-crowding in institutions would continue since relocation to community-based programs is preferred over building more institutional space. While the future dream may be for deinstitutionalization and community-based programs, the present reality is that the institutions exist and demand for placement space continues to grow. Crisis management of these over-crowded institutions would likely drain dollars from the federally-mandated prevention and family-based programs jeopardizing the state's qualifying for full federal funding.

3-11-87 HB32

Developing community-based programs, a goal the public sector must pursue, will need the full cooperation of all human services agencies. And, it will need money. Montana doesn't have the money. A merged agency won't achieve that goal without it.

South Carolina also learned that the stresses of change immobilized lots of people. A study conducted by the University of South Carolina revealed that just the report of pending change resulted in an increase in the stress levels of clients and staff with a resulting drop in effectiveness.

Finally, South Carolina learned that money would be needed for training; public relations; client and community outreach; publications and printing; network building; re-codification of the administrative code; revision, reprinting and redistribution of the policies and procedures manual; public hearings; moving; telephone relocation and republication of telephone numbers.

Why should a committee of the Montana State Legislature listen to the voices of experience with a southern accent? In my work in the Southeast and the West I have been amazed by the consistency in the issues facing child welfare administrators. As different as possum tastes from venison and the dogwood looks from the ponderosa pine, my work with the state agency administrators indicates where child welfare is concerned, goals and strategies for kids and families are shared and understood.

Federally-provided dollars supported the development of the current child welfare system. Since the passage of the *Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and Treatment Act of 1974* the Office of Human Development Services of the Department of Health and Human Services provided money for program development, training, public education, and legislative reform. Those "start-up" dollars are no longer available.

Montana didn't develop its current system alone. It had lots of help.

3-11-87 HB323

Maybe technical and financial help is on the horizon as Congress and states grapple with problems HB 325 seeks to address. Knowing the budget crisis you face, if you can't afford to do it right, can you afford to do it wrong?

Under these circumstances I urge you to vote against HB 325.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to present by proxy these viewpoints for your consideration.

NAME:) >166 (1	<u>SLL1015</u>			_DATE:	3-11-37
ADDRESS:_	416	Mong	10e_ H	lo Domes		37
		6434				HB323
REPRESENT	ING WHOM?_	Mys	e15			
APPEARING	ON WHICH	PROPOSAL:_	HB	325		
DO YOU:	SUPPORT?		AMEND?		OPPOSE?_	X
COMMENTS:						,
			,	 		
				•		
		•	<u> </u>	 		
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
						

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

$^{\circ}$
(This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.) 38
(This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.) JAME: COLCON LIPPKO DATE: 3-11-87
ADDRESS: 31 Alderson, Billings, Mt.
PHONE: 248-2278
REPRESENTING WHOM? Self
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 48325
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?
COMMENT: Testimong + Petition attached
/

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

Upisose do 48 325 I am Colleen Supplied 5THT and 48325 on I Covinga how lavas a County I superior y child protection pocial workers who have to cases apreces. Yellowstone County un 1986 unvestigated 1156 referrals of alruba and moglect. Every year the Runder of referrals have uncreased The Bolowstone County are goto Goto and Sedicated Atrie znilosa. Ob vert Lokue of One and help betrelpen and search lufacenta struct au ceilimaf ciente and making decrues to place children outside Heis Jamily homes is Conel to need oals also been a lend custose lover ou costore lovos My I was a pocial worked un Dawson, McCaro, and trained County, and also un Bug Horn County. Sand I noku platen I the plan to consolidate services to children and their of amelies Goop Esous Let Agend At I udood. I thought of the many Aldrenthat fall through the cracks because they are smotionally , Beauld tom Lid Coloutais acos beneficial I remembered coses anied la Date and a contraction of boing

Concerned for services that a child 4833 cow ohn coo though below control of the payment of the colored back of the black o placement. However mow I am opposed to HB325. My opposition us bisseldon sancas reasons: Controlog clinewy twosteld (1) assured flow cont foundy sources Catabulaanos Lan alab translagab Jamely and Childrens plurices. (2) H new agency well cost the Carafleen strucos for - perom catala at sound of for obeself strantragel lannoared sentratord Blub Buro Llubs Great Iran pay of Guest Dew Coto Cart and also cost for clarical, letter head, phones, new Jorms, etc.
(3) The new agency does not
quanted that needed services to and meglected children wall be guend Currently SRS has a attens timble vallab millem 5 Gotes care program All & the Children that are placed un Goster card are screened to make sure that they are mot being removed from that homes unnecessarily. The children being placed in residential treatment weed

out of control in regular foster care 143325 and they need the extra structure. Those place Sout of state are there because Senos estates un the state could not some them adequately or refused to accept these children at all Every year the problems that children have experienced tend to (get urses) Though the plandoes address the need for Dong range planning for youth services ut does not address how assured lastrabiaer Cabaen Lourn Bakas notes and ushon asked Abour Junding well be secured to answers are vagues. (1 (4) Under the Jamely services department youth that are adjudicated youth tneugnileb to Concurrency & Rean me youth house to go through a placement Committee. These youth of they go through this process well not be placed quickly, nother they will show drift along un placements that were to be short term. The placement committee well not necessarily Cut down on the number of children placed in Pine Hills, Mountain View, crosed and LI. anothertens collo co Abour grishow ne consumpter jum child protection teams and other Com me the de of dhouse of me of O. b. o)

to recomend placement than are 483 suskoulavoders. (5) Concern about the movement from Jorally based services to more Regionally based services. The bill changes the wording from county child protective teams to teams being from a local source area It took many years for countres to develop and promote child protection teams - these teams are a) good pulsed on how that community Reels about along and reglect These Jeans are untere are across the community award of alruse and neglect. It appears that these teams will be changing to that of a move regional basis. The Jamely services department seems to be moving from county based services to more regional based services Whoustopers carte maken to metape laren social worked from that area us on waction? Already Jellowstone County evolves are overestelmed From the number of cases they have to expect that they can some a Darger regional area us un realistic (6) The Hamily services department Lo absorbet ocarbbo tonosol emotionally disturbed childre

Camelo Gensa ohn anskour loisol (7) and reglacted deldreman Shair Jamber do not think they have been gwen enough enput unto theo pear). They are angry about the bull, that they have not been involved in the planning, and they do not think they will be unduded in the planning of services of the bell passes The adultand child protective services workers need to be considered They are that provide services now, they are the crosthat Know the meeds of the children adults, and families they serve. They are quite concerned about those pelvices. When the social workers about quations about who costs decede Court of an other asserted to her Som, how will they be Junded the answers given them are Nague). I Know of mo social worked in Yellowshie County that supports this bill Kespectfull pulmitted, Colleen Suppher, MSW, Incerned Acced worker un Mt.

Yellowstone Country

		28
	1	3-11-8:
WE, the undersigned are oppor	osed to House Bill 325.	B 4B 325
NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Octava Jerri Late	3021 Bidlau 4.	248-1691
Gar matter	3021 324 C/m 71.	248-1691
Chris Luzeus	3021 3rd aun	248-1691
iten bord	2021 3rd live M	248-1691
Don't Unkur	3021 3million	245-1671
gave massett	3021 3-d Avel	248-1691
Bustonia		I.
Cooks Asses Kindingto	3021 3rd Alux 10.	248-1491
For Dehlmer	3021 3RD AVE N.	-48:1691
Susan Ken	30 21-3 dane N	248-1691
Dan Carlain-Thompson	- 3021 3rd due N	248-1691
Caral 4 Dyc	3021- 3rd aven.	248-1691
Kate Zednick	3021 3rd au M.	248-1691
Storge T. Bulate	302/3 & Come Ro	248-1691
Bethy Voget		
In Rolinson	3021-3rd ave. 9	248-1691
May Sl	11	248.1691
Symphy Aisdale	3021 3rd aux 41.	248-1691
Chris Glacdey	30+13RD QUYN.	749-1691
avis Kaufman	3021-32 au.No	• (•)
Bette Brotze	· '/	ie V
Min Kerren	.30 21 3id Com N	<i>.</i>
George Junto	U U	"
Therie Undergow	3031 3/d ac. 1.	248-1691
Delen n. Sut a	3021 3rd au Mo.	248-1691

28 3-11-81 HB325

WE, the undersigned are opposed to House Bill 325.

NAME -	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Caret Hallated	3021 3th am 11.	348-1691
Glyris Burchell	1906 Benon	248-1429
Istilast o	3021 3nd QueN.	248-1691
anita Ligina	3021 3rd AreN	048-1691
Anita Dairy Dawn Wagner	3021 3th Que. 1	D18-1691
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TO: STATE ADMINISTRATION SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE

FROM: BEA LUNDA

RE: HB325 PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES LEGISLATION

29 3-11-82 HB525

While I am wholeheartedly in support of the concept of unifying and strengthening youth services in the State of Montana, I contend that HB325 will fail miserably to accomplish its intent without significant alterations, most specifically to its funding base. Given the supplemental appropriation request of 1.9 million dollars to fund out-of-home placement costs during the current biennium, I cannot visualize how the department can succeed in providing services to youth during the next biennium without increased appropriations.

There are three areas of concern that relate to youth services that must be carefully examined.

- I. The Department of Family Services must be prepared for a noteable increase in the number of youth referred for services. These additional referrals/commitments will originate primarily out of youth court and will be the youths that have not previously been served by either county probation departments or protective services, but who are definitely in need of services. (References: Sections 13, 15, 16 and 17) If the department does not have appropriate funding to place referred or committed youth, the whole issue of liability comes into focus and rests squarely with the State of Montana. Insufficient funding will not be a legitimate exception for not servicing youths who are committed to the department.
- II. HB325 does not provide assurances of maximum participation in federal funding opportunities and further separates placement authority from payment responsibilities. (State assumption) To achieve maximum utilization of federal placements, the placement process must insure that those people with placement responsibilities also have accountability for appropriately relating YINC/YINS to eligible federal dollars. To demonstrate this concept, one needs to analyze placement data and draw some conclusions relative to maximizing services and minimizing cost to state and local governmental entities.

-- STATISTICE GATHERED FROM COMPUTER DRAW AS OF 10/01/86 (FY'87)--

Actual number of children in placement	12 State-assumed counties	Non-assumed counties	
1183	641 children	542 children	
IVE related stats:			
329 children	129 children	200 children	
Percentage of placements			
related to federal dollars (IVE)	20% (128.2)	37% (200.54)	

If state-assumed counties had achieved a IVE placement percentage rate equal to non-assumed counties, 108 more children would have been IVE related (108 X 5555 average monthly placement costs X 12 months X 207 federal participation X 2 years) and the state could have realized 55555 more federal, dollars with which to place children. This figure represents more than half 4 of the supplemental request for the current biennium.

III. Federal compliance must be maintained in all placements. IVE and 427 audits are conducted by federal auditors frequently and can result in sanctions in actual dollars and decreased participation in administrative costs in providing services to children. To be in compliance for IVE dollars, economic assistance must perform certain functions. To be in compliance for 427 dollars, the youth court must perform certain functions. (refer to attachments: audit instruments) To interfere with the relationship that exists between economic assistance departments (county welfare) and youth court departments will ultimately jeopardize the state's ability to come into compliance for federal audits and increase the state and county funding responsibilities as it relates to federal penalties. This relationship is affected primarily by shifting accountability for the funding to the State Department of Family Services.

In conclusion, HB325 is basically flawed in that it does not take into consideration these funding scenarios and make provisions for responsibly funding youth services in its proposal. Historically, state assumption has not worked. Youth services do need to be streamlined but not without paying close attention to funding sources and accountability. I suggest that HB325 must either be funded adequately or placed into committee for further study. The State of Montana places itself in a serious dilemma of fiscal liability as it relates to implementation of family services as the bill is authorized.

TITLE IV-E FOSTER CARE ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST

August 1985

EACH QUESTION MUST BE ANSWERED; if the question is not applicable, write NA in the	appropriate
study the CHECKLIST GUIDE for an explanation of each question and how to a	nswer it.
This form may be annotated with additional information regarding eligibility, as ne	cessary.

1.	Child's Name	2. Cou	inty
3.	State	4. Date of review	5. Date of Claim
6.	Date of Care	7. Case I.D	8. Sample No.
9.	St. FC Need Std.	10. Am't of Payment	11. Am't. of Claim
12.	Date of Birth	13.	Date of Discharge
14.	a. Date of removal from hom	e of specified relative	YES NO
	b. Was removal as a result	of judicial determination?	14b
15.	a. Date court order removin	g child from home was initiated	
	b. Did 15a precede 14a or o	ccur within 6 months of 14a?	15b
	c. Date of court order remo	wing child from home	
16.	Court order content:	a. contrary to welfare of child;	16a
		 reasonable efforts made to prevent separation; 	166
17.	a. If 16b is NO, was there re: reasonable efforts?	subsequent judicial determination	
	b. Date of subsequent judic	ial determination	•
18.	Was removal pursuant to vol	untary placement agreement?	18
19.	If removal was pursuant to	voluntary placement agreement, ination within 180 days? Date	19
20.	Is IV-E Agency (or Public A responsible for child? Nam	gency with IV-E agreement) ne of Agency	
21.	a. Was the child an actual	or potential AFDC recipient?	21a
	b. was financial need estab	olished?	· 21b
	c. Was the child removed fr	com home of a specified relative?	21c
	d. Was deprivation of parer	ntal support or care established?	21d
22.	Child's SSN or date of appl	lication	22
23.	Redetermination of eligibil	lity a. Date	23a
	•	b. Need established?	23b
	• •	Child's income	
	•	c. Deprivation established?	23c
24	. Child's age at time of per: If the child is 16 or olde: registered for the WIN pro	r, is he a full time student or	24
25	, (At State option) If the cl under review, was he a ful or its equivalent?	hild was 18 during the period 1 time student in secondary school	25
26	. Type of foster home: (check	one)	
	a) FFHb)GH_	c)Inst (Pub)	d)Inst (PNP)
27	 Licensed or approved provide Date of license/approval_ 		27
	Enter name and address of	provider	_
		BLISHED? 29. PROVIDER	
30	. AMOUNT OF OVERPAYMENT	31. AMOUNT OF	
32	. Reviewed by		C077A
For	r IV-E Eligibility:	AcceptableUnacceptable	29
Cor	nments:		3-11-87

CASE RECORD SURVEY

DATE 3-11-87

BILL (10. HB 3.25 10/23/85)

ase Record ID Number:		Reviewer	:	1
ample Number:		Date:		·
ase Data	•	a segue a min		•
1. Date of Placement:	·			
<pre>2. Periodic Reviews: (indicate dates)</pre>	Due	•	Held	Not Jue
		-		
		· ·		
3. Dispositional Hearings: (indicate dates)	Due		<u>Held</u>	Not Due
		-		
		_		
indings ·	• .			
1. Major Safeguards:	Met	·	Not Met	Not Due
Written Case Plan	·			
Periodic Reviews		_		
Dispositional Hearings		-		-
of the remaining (At least 15 of the remain acceptability. NA's are	ing protectio	ns are re	met. quired for	
3. This case is acceptable.		•	٠	
is not acceptab	le			

CB/POD	4 T	29
10/85	<u> </u>	-11-87
	#148 \$ 100m.	

CASE RECORD SURVEY WORKSHEET Triennial Review for FY 1985 (No 90 day grace period)

CASE ID #			Reviewe	r
CASE SAMPI	E \$		DATE	-
If 2 or mo frame, sel Allowance	ore reviews lect the las	COPS the REVIEW of or hearings are hearings are hearings are heart and meets de for the 30 day hicated.	neld within the the the requires	ne required time ments.
	. •		YES	NO NOT DUE
ı.	Is there a	written Case Plan	1?	
II.	Date of pla	cement		•
III.	for disposi	s periodic schedul tional hearings i months.		
IV.		ld enter care Aft If YES, go to V,	ier ———	-
٧.	A. PERIOD	C REVIEW:	·	
•	within of place	periodic review he 6 months (+30 day cement?		
	review (+30 da	e next periodic held within 6 morays) of the date in (1)?	iths	
	B. DISPOS	ITIONAL HEARING -	- NONE REQUIR	ED
	S'	rop:		

PERIODIC REVIEW: VI. A. YES: NOT DUE Was a periodic review held on or between 3/1/84, and 10/1/84 WHEN Was the next periodic review 2. held within 6 months (+ 30 days) . of the date specified in (2)? WHEN Was the next periodic review 3. held within 6 months (+ 30 days) of the date specified in (2)? WHEN Was the next periodic review held within 6 months (+30 days) of the date specified in (3)? WHEN B. DISPOSITIONAL HEARING 1) Was the child in an adoptive placement or in a court specified permanent foster family home prior to 10/1/84 (See 45 CFR 1356.21(e)(1) & (2)? If YES STOP! 2) Did the child enter care BETWEEN 4/1/83 and 3/31/84? If YES, go to (3); If NO, go to (4). 3) Was a dispositional hearing a) held within 18 months (+ 30 days) of placement? WHEN If YES, go to (b). b) Was the next dispositional hearing held within months (+ 30 days)
(from III above) of the last

hearing? STCP!

WHEN.

3-11-84 4B325 10/85

DEFINITION OF SAMPLING UNIVERSE

Initial Review:

Selected case records should include all children for whom the State Agency has placement and care responsibility and who have been in foster care six months or more and the case is still open at the end of the Federal fiscal year under review.

This includes all children who entered care before April 1 and are still in care on September 30 of the year being reviewed.

Subsequent and Triennial Reviews:

Selected case records should be of children who entered foster care prior to April 1st of the fiscal year under review, and should include closed cases, provided they were open at least six months during the fiscal year under review. Cases closed prior to April 1st of the year under review are excluded.

C3 5 E	RECORD	CHRUEV
C-7-0		

29 DOTE 3-11-87 SUL 100 HB 325

CASE PLAN		BUL 10. 413 32		3 <u>325</u>	5	
			Ā	es .	<u> No</u>	3/=
Α.	IS T	HERE A WRITTEN CASE PLAN?	**:	***	****	
	(1)	Does the plan describe the type of home or institution in which the chilis to be placed?	ld.			
	(2)	Does the plan give the reason(s) for the placement and for the particular type of placement chosen?		_		
	(3)	Have efforts been made to place the child in the least restrictive (most family-like) setting available consistent with the best interests and special needs of the child?		· .		
	(4)	Have efforts been made to place the child in close proximity to the parent's home consistent with the best interests and special needs of the child?	_			
	(5)	Does the plan make provision to carry out any judicial determination made with respect to the child?	· .	·		
	(6)	Does the plan provide a mechanism for assuring the proper care of the child				
	(7)	Does the case plan include a plan for assuring that services are provided the CHILD AND PARENTS to improve the ditions in the parent's home and factions of the child home or other permanent placement of the child?	to con-	e 		
	(8)	Does the case plan include a plan for assuring that services are provided to the CHILD AND FOSTER PARENTS to address the needs of the child while in foster care?				
	(9)	Does the plan discuss the appropriat				

ness of the services TMAT HAVE BEEN PROVIDED the child under the plan?

PERIODIC REVIEW

A	29	
18.88 <u></u>	3-11-89	
315 Lap 12 -	4 332	James .
Yes	No	$N \setminus Y$

			Yes	No	N/A
з.	FREQU:	E STATUS OF THE CHILD REVIEWED NO LESS ENTLY THAN ONCE EVERY SIX MONTHS BY R A COURT OR AN ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW?		****	
`	(10)	Have the periodic reviews determined the continuing need for and appropria ness of the placement?	te-		
	(11)	Have the periodic reviews determined the extent of compliance with the case plan?			
	(12)	Have the periodic reviews determined the extent of progress made toward alleviating or mitigating the causes necessitating the placement in foster care?		***************************************	
•	(13)	Have the periodic reviews projected a likely date by which the child may be returned home or placed for adoption or legal guardianship?	-	· ·	
	(14)	IF the last periodic review was an administrative review, was it open to the participation of the parent's of the child?			
	(15)	IF the periodic review was an administrative review, was it conducted by a panel of appropriate persons at least one of whom is not responsible for the case management of, or the delivery of services to, either the child or the parents who are the subject of the review?			

PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

	4 162	29	
DATE		3-11-87	
	HO	43325	
Ter E Au San	Ye	s No	

c.	THE F ACCOR LATER	DISPOSITIONAL HEARING TO DETERMINE UTURE STATUS OF THE CHILD HELD IN DANCE WITH SECTION 475(5)(C) NO THAN 18 MONTHS AFTER ORIGINAL MENT AND PERIODICALLY THEREAFTER?	****	****	<u>*</u>
	(16)	Were the parents notified concerning the agency's intent to petition the court to remove the child from the home?			_
	(17)	Were the parents notified of any changes in the child's placement?			_
	(18)	Were the parents notified of any changes affecting visitation rights?			

Hart from

3-11-89 11B323

MILES CI	TY DISTRICT	- (NON- AS	SSUMEO)	
COUNTY			1 Ve	OTHER
ROSEBUD C) 3	(14	0
RICHLAND &		\ 1	11	3
FALLON &	. 6 0	\) 5	1
PALLON & DAWSON & CUSTER CO	p. 11 \ 3	\ (/ 6	1
Custer G	20 7	/ 2	/0	
TOTALS	84 2.	5 7	46	, 6

* app. 55% without compliance rate

3-11-57

MISSOULD DISTRICT (STATE- ASSUMED) (OUNTY cws MISSOULA RAVALLI MINERAL TOTALS

* app. 15% withant compliance rate

IN CHAMBERS
R. D. MCPHILLIPS, JUDGE
434-2451
SHELBY, MONTANA

DISTRICT COURT

NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
STATE OF MONTANA

3-11-87 W. J. MAY

COURT REPORTER

4B 325 278-3662

CONRAD, MONTANA

TETON COUNTY . CHOTEAU PONDERA COUNTY . CONRAD GLACIER COUNTY . CUT BANK TOOLE COUNTY . SHELBY

March 5, 1987

Senator Jack Haffey, Chairman State Administration Committee Montana State Senate Capitol Building Helena, MT 59601

Re: HB325

Dear Senator Haffey:

I note the above bill is going to appear before your committee. It is the bill whereby the youth services in Montana are consolidated under one head to be operated out of Helena.

The creation of another bureaucracy out of Helena will resolve nothing. Social services for children are now adequately provided. Perhaps some improvements could be made but I surely do not think that everything coming out of Helena is the answer. We have had some experience with things like Aftercare and it was a disaster.

I urge HB325 be defeated.

Very truly yours,

2 st Pullys

R. D. McPhillips District Judge

eln

cc: Senator Gary Aklestad

(This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.)	
NAME: QUILEGIONS DATE: 3/1/27	
ADDRESS: 1454 B Lur- Lexicoln Helds 31	or grapping street
PHONE: 728-2893 H8325	
REPRESENTING WHOM? SRS- Gold Wilfar - Mola Co.	
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: ## 325	
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?	
COMMENT: FACT- There are in fanal problem " over there is in if chuler	
" wil alway he placement neces	ay
Spending a new but cleans while not climinate spending a roumal bureactoric issues.	
Mai focus is Consolidation - we	
are lising sminary service delevery system - javenice	
due to "local committees" onerseen D.I. place me	K-
reason us time of energy in pur from all	
probation. Budger will not be in Contral due to "local committees" onerseen D.I. place the het's go book to drawing book of reasons up time of lineray in pur from all youth serving entities.	
V	

IAME: Bring Lu Ping	DATE: 3-11-87
ADDRESS: 170 7th St Sil Lidney Me	£ 59270
V	33
PHONE: 482-2282	Department of Public
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: House Bir	11 325
OO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND?	OPPOSE? X
COMMENTS:	
•	

3-11-87 Sam Bonne In Perry Director Richland County Department of Public Welfare. Jam speaking in apposition to Structe Bill 325. While problems do-if int, who family strive agency will not remity these proflems, but will and additional ories, January a new agency when we are freing hard economic times will only accelerate the present costs, There consider two princens Jainel from "The Slagew Project" that mer shiften referred to, It involved fine countries in northeastern Montane I was a social makin for the stree years of this felial project. The project's peurpose was to detirmine how that Social Services could be provided in a rural setting.

It was a wonderful experience 3-11-89 The scorning was good. However, even in good times the separation of Local Services fromthe pelfure office did not prove to be the list way to provide Social Services. There was one derictor for the molfare Office and many directors for the Social Service-project. At the conclusion, Social Services were returned to the County Welfare Offices as the fest practical way of providing Locial Services. The second experience is more recent. The state assumed 12 County General assistance and County Wedical programes. The cost has skyrochetel out of control, Under the present system the Economic Division and the Social Service Dinision workers work as a team to provide the first

passible service to the chient, Under Jamily Sirvices ligeray this would south passible Strucias would the signatul, duplicated and fragmented. Juintly, the County Commissioners acting as the melfire Board receive recommendations from both programs making elected local officials responsive to the needs of the community. They are must knowledgeable of the med of their constituents and responsable to think. against Sante Bill 325 Sicause of cost, duplication of administration, services and the need for local government responsibility Dinne In Perry

NAME:	24230	alla an	DATE: 3-11-27
ADDRESS:	BOXL	06	Ttall mT
PHONE:	827-4	616 -	33
REPRESENTING	G WHOM?	mirato C	HBULL NO. 1+ B 325
APPEARING O	N WHICH PROP	OSAL: +BE	325
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Of.	menta	OHA School	ols an irealling
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COE	strain	to to bot	-h - who will
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3-11-87 HB325 My name is Therese Callahan and I wonder I would me shompson talls, mit here as a private cittizen +18325. states there well be a local planning board; Consisting of JP, MH, School o New Dept. - the collect being that local people will control local kids 1) no poin my Co. 2) 1 mt Worker B) 1 Dept. coulser Schools in Sinders to are exper. severe budget crunches selved personnell have intimated that they would not be able to provide a bedy is out money - other option is to have personnel tion a neighboring country on the board which removes board costrol. Quaired by school personnel re: summer voicettions. Iravel regid for attendance Omtep in joint jud districts

- Rural counties haven that. Directors provide relief as well supervision (under SWSIII) Once the EA agency of DFS are created as seperate entities that leaves rural workers w/ no direct asst, aveil consultation or relief .. Counties would ageun lose local worthof as a "achef worker would have to come from another district. of major cincum is the failure of this bill to address the . Issue of new or additioned .. or changing services which would add ess children who Jall through - the gaps of children continue to fail - there's no new net to catch them. One year ago this agency was . services for thickren - tyl mow beined out to be the some sentes under a new

another. Myldand area of conceen is adults and a disabled clients . They appear to herve been torsed in in/ out much thought to this new aceney. It seems a liblihood that and disabled clients will become which would remove again local access a control of services a also pit them in the middle of DOO a providers w/ no one acting soldy on their vehelfos an advocato. it to tenally as a private atingen get who's been involved in pritective in services for 2/2 years I cooperation sont been a my problem. e beacone da a como Providing for services to youths + camilies has are publems in the administration of these services deal wo that - bottos for as refforts to rather than hange relepted exponsibilities = copabilities of The Exent should follow the

NAME: Mile Secure	DATE: 3-11-8->
ADDRESS: Jorgth Int	24
ADDRESS: Forgth 2000 - PHONE: 356-7559	3-11-87 11 13 3 25
REPRESENTING WHOM? Bosebul 6	delfon
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 325	
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND?	OPPOSE?
COMMENTS:	
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Testimony Against Mike Kennedy HB325 FORSYTH, Mt. Ham Bell 325 is an attempt to address the essens of desplication , fragof Teroit. Some of this does in fact the problem of the delinquent or unsupervised youth, it creates a much greater potential for fragmentation a desserve to a sund more vulner able population of the state - The neg Rected er abused child. Cruently, the state & counties have Social worker, spending hundred of hours beyond the normal work Day in toling care of the needs of these children. I feel they have done a commendable job. The bill as it stands, opensy the possibility of probability of handle child protection service from a region or judicial district. The profonest.

of this bill will dang them is an intent, experience theoler in the it will be just a matter of time. Lood, Formal Work Servin will be a thrung of the good in reval Sum that should be spent on the med of these children will be spent accomplating the class of Brobation of the Courts. This bill not only relieves the probation dept for their to the social workers. Create more fragmentation of untimal deprime the about a neglected children of the service of the Social worker. pass to HB 325, ed through the surrent system.

(This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.)

NAME: Sudrey R. Johnson	DATE: 3/11/87
ADDRESS:	
PHONE:	37 DATE 3-11-87
REPRESENTING WHOM? <u>Puster and fonder k</u>	ines Co. Social Services
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HB 325	
DO YOU: SUPPORT?AMEND?	OPPOSE? X
COMMENT:	
	<u> </u>

Members of the administration:

Strices bill 325 to combine Humbers Strices by creating a new department is a goal that definitely cannot be achieved without the involvement of Juvenile Protestion. The only things the present Bill consists of is what and when The mechanics of who, where, how and why have not been worked out to indicate that enacting this Bill will in any way improve the delivery of services or be financially feasible at a time when the State's economy can ill-afford to take under our risks.

As a Social Worker for Easter and Paweler River Counties there are a number of concerns I have regarding this Bill which are as follows:

I've absolute impossibility of absorbing the responsibility for fourth land placements when the intentions are to further decieuse staff wither those provide adequate man-power to respond effectively to this additional responsibility.

2) There is no mention of the existing county third Photections Teams continuing to play a role and these teams members are the eyes and ears of the Social Worker who is stationed 80 miles away. It

is highly unlikely any one of these heave members would want to continue to respond to the needs of the community without having ar "active" role.

3) This Bill allows for no more than two Social Workers to provide thild Protective, Youth Court Placement, and adult Protective Services as well as becoming involved in Spouse Abuse in three courties which span an area of over 200 miles north to South 4) Due to present service demands

both social workers are frequently providing services out in the community at the same time so removal of the lounty directors role will result in no-one being available to accept referrals or respond to smergent child protective service needs a gived deal of the time.

5) Witimately this not only increases the risk of hiability for the Social Wirker as a professional person, but for the State as well. The liability for ever one child's loss of lift or line as a result of mability to respond to a crisis situation on a timely basis could be astronomical."

(a) The provision of social services will not only become more fragminted, but in many cases completely "non-quistant" due to increasing responsibilities coupled with decreasing staff.

1) I have been a dedicated employee of SRS since 1911 and have personally experienced on-going increases in responsibility without increase in man-power which has had a devistating effect on both the quantity and quality by services provided. Separation of Said Services and Economic Assistance will make achievement of tasks even more cumbersom and highly likely to result in loss of Federal funds for IV-E foster earl placements.

8) The trend of increasing cost completed with decreasing services provided by hich staff person in Economic Posistance as well as Social Services has largely been the result of repeated efforts at the State level to achieve simplification through multiplication and duplication of work highirements.

9) Now we are faced with another Bill that contains no concise information as to how this costly venture is likely to improve stiller the quality or grantity of social services privated under the elisting system if it is enacted Quite the opposite, this Bill appears to be a continuation of the trend to recrease the effectiveness of services by increasing Social Worker responsibilities which will again mandate additional funds for either adquate staff of liability suits.

or county Stuff responsibility that contributes to the incline in child placements but nother State Level demands forcing line workers to respond to priority cases only instead of being allowed the long lost lineary of being able to prevent placement through quality services implemented on a timely lasio. He are at a point where the term 'early intervention' has become a term of the past.

Noods" is equally as wise as entering into any other enterprise without having a clear understanding as to the effectiveness and mechanics involved.

12) de Sinators of the State of Montana now are responsible for making extremely difficult dicisions and conducting

3-11-87 HB323

business on behalf of the people of this great state. This important responsibility would seem to require studies and a detailed, clearly defined operational plan before a wise or knowledgable decision could possibly be made.

Respectfully Submitted by: Judrey R. Johnson, SWII

(This sheet to be used by those testifying on	a bill.)
NAME: Antower	DATE: 3-11-87
ADDRESS: C/O Msla. Co. Welfore	36
PHONE: 72/- 9360	3-11-89 HB 335
REPRESENTING WHOM? SRS- SUCIAL	- Worker
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 733	
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND?	OPPOSE?
COMMENT:	

(This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.) 3-11-87 HB3 NAME: M ANN GOWEN DATE: 03/18 ADDRESS: It 1 Box 441) St. IGNATIOS, Mt. 745 345 APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: ____ H3 OPPOSE? DO YOU: SUPPORT?_____ AMEND?____ COMMENT: Coniena to a custral location a seurces doissist meanthat we have our butter presences to deal with our clients tooker pairet are il trained. We have no ressure able to adequately address the need of the anotionally unstable caldies is have for programs grand to presenters of the grobbens of abrea and needer, Or mere to assess the problems but ve don't nord a newageneen to do so. I frall that the approach 11335 propose is primateer and innotiquatily PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY. Senator tened, There are other approaches to the fosker care budget and services essiles de new agency s

NAME:	Fred	Jennestens	DATE: 3 11-87
ADDRESS:	Po. Box	118 Bigfort	Mest. 32
PHONE:	837-6	/))	3-11-87 4B325
REPRESENT	ING WHOM?	Self.	
APPEARING	ON WHICH P	ROPOSAL: #	D315
DO YOU:	SUPPORT?	AMEND?	OPPOSE?
COMMENTS:		Further study 05	A Family Service , algery
4	D inch	de Line Worker	s as an active part
	of the	Proces.	
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March 11,191) January 20, 1987

> 31/ 3-11-87/ HB325

In the near future you will be dealing with proposed legislation relating to the family services agency. The proposal is to combine part of Social and Rehabilitation Services, Aftercare workers, Probation Officers and several state institutions. Since I will be directly affected by this proposal, I would like to make some comments.

In November, 1985, the governor appointed a council on reorganization of Youth Services. He appointed approximately 20 people to this council. Their task was to recommend ways to reorganize and improve services to Montana's youth. As a result of that council, the recommendation is before you for the Family Services Agency.

I feel that the family Services Agency is definitely something the state of Montana needs to look into and pursue. I do have some hesitations about the way which the Family Services Agency is evolving. During the time that the council was in operation, agency personnel had limited access to council members. However, when access was available, many questions were raised. Unfortunately the response to many of the questions related either to don't worry about that it, will work out or you are just concerned about your job. It take exception to those kind of responses. There are a great many people throughout this new proposed agency which have a great deal of expertise and do an excellent job in providing services to Nontana's youth. It seems that those people should somehow be involved in the creating of a new agency. The people that work on a day to day basis with the clients do have many suggestions and recommendations on how things might function in order to serve more of Montana's youth. It is with that thought in mind that I propose the following.

I would suggest that someone be hired, preferably from the legislative body, to head up a task force. This task force would be made up of employees in all levels of the agencies to be affected by the Family Services Agency. Over the wext two years proposals could be arranged for the delivery of services as well as the structure of the new agency.

The amount of knowledge, skill, expertise and education that is available amongst current employees should not be overlooked. Let those people help you create a solid service delivery program for Montana's youth.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Testimony for hearing on HB325

Fred Jenneskens P.O. Box 118 Bigfork, MT 59911 (This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.)

NAME: 10	by Oslitana	<i>O</i>	DATE: 3/11/87
ADDRESS: Q	417 Mu	way Ms	la
PHONE: 50	43-5442		38
REPRESENTING	WHOM?	/	BILL WO. 4/3 325
APPEARING ON	WHICH PROPOSAL:	HB 328	
DO YOU: SUP	PORT?	AMEND?	OPPOSE?
COMMENT:			

NAME: A.T. BROWN LOS	DATE: 3/11/87
ADDRESS: COURTHOUSE BLAG WOLF ROIN	T 59201
PHONE: 653-1590 EX 32	39
PHONE: 653-1590 EX 32 REPRESENTING WHOM? ROOSevelt - DANIELS.	Stronibur 6
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 4/3 325	
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND?	OPPOSE?
COMMENTS:	
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(This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.)

NAME: Judila S. Williams DATE: 3/11/87
ADDRESS: D820 Wilson, B-3 Miles City, Mt. 59301 3-11-89
PHONE: 232-6478 (heme) 4B325
REPRESENTING WHOM? self-professional porcial worker
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HB 325
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?
COMMENT: This Will appears & be a
solution in search of a
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decreased services. (This refers to serve
to both aging, divilogementally disabled Lyouth
involvement of line stiff or superiusar
PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Daire WEALACE	DATE: 3/11/57
ADDRESS: Bex 93 Ryegette Wift	
PHONE: 5682503	DATE 3-11-8-7
REPRESENTING WHOM? 5.elf	BILL NO. HB 325
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 1325	
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND?	OPPOSE?
COMMENT: I Am apposed to the	soill as
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in the following the boat a terme to	Ale walkers and
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while the economy pushes neem	Edio OS placemento
PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE	HE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.
Chal families toward more st	ed).
4. I tear for aged Service de Living Externs es	clivery under this clevial do a
Il outh drening	

NAME: Orystal J. Luncer	DATE: 3-11-87
NAME: (Prystal J. turce) ADDRESS: 301 Tam O' Shanter - Dullin PHONE: 359-4986	9)
PHONE: 359-4986	3-4-57
REPRESENTING WHOM? Self SAS	110.5
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HB 325	
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND?	OPPOSE?
COMMENT:	
PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE	COMMITTEE SECRETARY

(This sheet to be used by those testifying on a bill.)

NAME: Jathi Ellison	DATE: 03-11-87
ADDRESS: BOX 1106; Livings 20	on, Mt
PHONE: 222-8000	
REPRESENTING WHOM?	132 40 HB 325
appearing on which proposal: $HB325$	
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND?	OPPOSE?
COMMENTS: attached testimony	

March 11, 1987

43 3-11-37 HB 325

TO: Senate State Administration Committee

FROM: Kathi Ellison, Social Worker II

RE: Testimony in oppostion to H.B. 325

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

For the record, my name is Kathi Ellison. I am a Social Worker in Park County, but today I am here as a private citizen. For the past ten years I have been employed as a Child Protective Services worker for Social and Rehabilitation Services. My job entails investigating referrals of child abuse and neglect in families and then making determinations of whether abuse or neglect does exist. If it is found to exist, I then assess the level of risk to the child involved.

Where risk is present but not eminent, I work with the family to attempt to alleviate the problems that contribute to abuse and neglect. In those situations where the risk of harm to the child is high, removal and placement into foster care for a period of time is often necessary. Once placement has occurred, the task has only begun.

Our focus becomes one of working with the family to return the child. If return is not feasible, it is possible that parental rights might be terminated and the child placed for adoption.

While children are in placement, workers must continuously monitor the individuals within their caseload. Monitoring is accomplished through different ways, which may include:

- 1) Foster care review committee meetings. These meetings are required by statute and are held periodically on every child that is in care six months or longer.
- 2) Child protection team meetings. Under statute we have the authority to staff any child protection case about which we may have concerns.
- Periodic custody reviews which are held by the Court as formal hearings.
- 4) Child Study Team meetings. These are meetings held in conjunction with the school systme to staff a child's particular educational needs.

In addition to these, we periodically meet with our clients and foster parents. This entire process, especially if a family is in a crisis, can be very time consuming.

The 1985 legislature authorized twenty four new child protection social work positions for the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Due to budgetory restrictions within the department, twelve of these positions were never filled. I believe that the allocation demonstrated that the legislature

acknowledged the need for more social worker positions. Now, however, we are facing a proposal that I believe will increase the workload of protective service workers while actually reducing the available work force.

Under the proposed Department of Family Services, one of the additional responsibilities will be to make placement determinations of youth court cases. These placement decisions will be made through a committee entitled "Youth Placement Committee". This committee adds yet one more committee to the already existing committees required by statute.

In smaller rural counties with limited office staff, social workers could conceivably end up spending a great deal of time in committee meetings, leaving minimal time available to actually spend with the clients.

I am here today speaking for many of my fellow social workers. This is a complex, demanding, and very serious job that we do.

It is my opinion that this bill only adds more complexities to the manner in which we function and hinders us in the actual amount of time we have to spend directly with the clients. Ultimately, the quality of services that we can provide to families and children would be severely diminished.

For these reasons, and for others provided in other testimonies, I respectfully request that you vote in opposition to H.B. 325.

Thank you!

NAME: Edwin A. Lambrecht	DATE: 03-11-87
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 457 Red Lodge, Monta	TY068
PHONE: (406) 446-1302 (406) 446-30	74. 44 DATE 3-1.1-8-7
REPRESENTING WHOM? Combon County Welfrac	Ocparate HB 325
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: H. B. 325	
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND?	OPPOSE?
COMMENTS: Amend Propation back in	15 N.B. 325
alone shows that with aut proc	hatron involvement
Then services are fragmented. I	spil to see
to be a last hudget expenditure	to a abready
Mrs fluring budget. I the	maly expans
	Jackreeld.

NAME:	e Cahi	<u> </u>	DATE:	3-11-87
address: <u>4781</u>		CiR.	N. B.	Mings
PHONE: 656	8756		24597 110 43	77 2 3 3 3
REPRESENTING WHO	M?	195 Di	578ILL NOO (C)	
APPEARING ON WH	ICH PROPOSAL:	H.B. :	325	
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COMMENTS: A	neno Pro 25. Ha 2 State	bation we a pr	-4/	et in
a Vlar oc		to see	Row I	t works.
				

NAME: Cheryl A. Price	DATE: 3-11-87
ADDRESS: P.O. Buy 849. Red Lodo	Mt 59068
•	0-446-1302 (WORK)
REPRESENTING WHOM? Carbon County DPC	STRATE STOTE VALUE. Strate on 46
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: #8325	DATE 3-11-89 BILL MO #R 3-25
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND?	
COMMENTS: The following areas that	t have not
Al addressed	
country has local control prese	relize and yet
country has local countral prese	utty.
There has been no needs as	sessment to see
what is needed at local level	
There is no research to show	u new department
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There has been not imput from	ane personnel.
Our concerns, rue could get	w/ committee w/
our concerns, we could get	no answers to our
Executie questions.	
also with prohation not incl.	ided we are Still
looking at fragmentation.	
PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH	
I am apposed to H.B.	325.

NAME: Betty Mueller		DATE:	-11-87
ADDRESS: Sax 139 Bake			
PHONE: 778-2883-4730		Francis 10. 47	7
REPRESENTING WHOM? Fallon Can	ter, Wila	BILL MA HB:	DSRS
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:	B-325		
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AME	ND?	OPPOSE?	
COMMENTS:			
	·		

My name is Betty Mueller, as desielon of the local depositment of Social and Perhabilitation Levineer in Fallow, Canten, and Wibany Countries, I wish to express the Conseens of the Soands of Country Commissionens and myself as to the effect the family sisvices fiel will have on our Chints and Caunty budget.

The Clinto in this three Country Combination are presently sexued by are social worker. As the local administrator, I serve as the an line supervisor of this worker and provide additional Serves as muded Protective services are mandated by law and lack of service Can have serious, long rouge impact.

It does not seem walistic that an line superminion and adequate Coverage Can be brounded from Miles City, which is 80 mile from Daher, Do suites from Ekalaha and 130 miles from Wibany. Non does it seem realistic that are social evanter Can Coven there Caunties

and he available 24 hauns a day.

Seven days a week, 52 weeks a

year It appears to us that additional staff devil be muded to maintain the Cument level of mandated fratedine services. Historically, neval Countrie have experienced à lass of services; le mental health, alcohol Causeling, Joh Service, Social segurity: Whenever rearganization has resulted in mon Almate supervision and Granisian of services. It is difficult for us to understand have this Kell evelfrounds more local Contral than we already have with focal Caunty deportmente. Again, historically designificant has resulted in last of dervices and additional laste. Financially, Carrity boards of Camity Commissioners and their County devetors are very protection of their country dallane and as a nesult also save the matching Lederal and state dallare. When a

set amount is paid to the state each year that incentive is gave, leargueigntion is expressive, We are aware that problems epist in the succent system. We evend recommend identification of who have aware of the local and state meds and are knowledgeable Cancerning federal and state regulations. We do not appose a well planned, evel thought out Charge We de vot deleine HB 325 mente. this requirement. Therefore we unge you to vate against this diel.

COUNTY OF VALLEY

Economic Assistance
Phone: 228-8221 Ext. 44

Department of Public Welfare

Box 272

GLASGOW, MONTANA 59230

March 9, 1987

3-11-67 BILL NO. HB 325

Social Services

Phone: 228-8221 Ext. 47

MEMO TO: Senate Administration Committee

FROM: Dain Christianson, County Director II

Valley & Phillips County Department of Public Welfare

RE: Testimony on House Bill 325

Although there are a number of areas of concern related to House Bill 325, I will limit my testimony to one area -- that is the area of fiscal control of foster care budgets. House Bill 325 will remove the fiscal control of county foster care budget from the counties and place it with a state agency. The effects of this can be foreseen by looking at the results of state assumption of fiscal control of a number of counties' General Assistance Programs!

It is important to note with foster care expenditures, when the counties save money, the State saves money as well.

Currently in non-assumed counties, the county exercises control of its foster care budget in a number of key ways including:

- 1) The County Director must sign to approve initiating foster care payments for any county child entering care.
- 2) The County Director shares in the supervision of Social Workers who make and monitor foster placements.
- 3) The County Director reviews and approves payment each month for the county's share of all foster care charges.
- 4) The County Commissioners review the opening of foster care placement monthly, and hold the County Director responsible for the county foster care budget.

The close association between tax payer elected Commissioners, County Directors responsible for budget expenditures, and Social Workers making foster care placements, has considerable cost controlling influence in non-assumed counties.

COUNTY OF VALLEY

Economic Assistance Phone: 228-8221 Ext. 44

Department of Public Melfare

Box 272 -

GLASGOW, MONTANA 59230

48 3-11-87 ML 10 413325

Social Services

Phone: 228-8221 Ext. 47

Memo Page 2

Costs are controlled by:

- 1) Utilizing the least costly placements which meet a child's need.
- 2) Utilizing federal participation in foster care payments to the greatest extent possible.
- 3) Monitoring expenditures and placements continually and individually for opportunities to reduce costs.

A very effective incentive to control costs exists at the county level which is absent in a State agency. Whatever is saved in the county budget this year is carried over to the same department's budget next year.

This reduces the mill levy the County Director must request for the same purposes next year.

If House Bill 325 passes, these direct controls and effective incentives will be lost, opening the door for soaring State and County foster care expenditures.

Thank you.

Tail history

200 10 49 2015 3-11-89 2011 10 413 325

March 9, 1987

To: The Montana State Senate Committe on State Administration

From: Jim Rolando Jim Rolando

Missoula, Mi

RE: H.B. 325

I have been a human services planner for thirteen years in the areas of Child and Adult Protective Services, Youth Court and Developmental Disabilities. I believe that the piece of legislation being considered today has been widely touted as a new and innovative idea. I assure you that it is not. It was the "state of the art" in planning human services delivery systems about ten years ago at a time when lavish funding for such ambitious endeavors was available. I agree that "streamlining" of our system is desirable. However, I do not believe that H.B. 325 can be implemented without tremendous funding increases. If it is, it will fail the very families it intends to serve.

I encourage you to listen to the testimony given here today from my colleagues working in the field, and before you pass such a measure, give it and all of it's ramifications far more consideration than it has. I believe, hertofore received.