

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 69

IN THE HOUSE

April 17, 1979                    Introduced and referred to  
   Committee on Judiciary.

April 18, 1979                    Committee recommend bill,  
   do pass.

   Printed and placed on members'  
   desks.

   On motion, rules suspended and  
   bill placed on second reading  
   this day.

   Second reading, do pass.

   Third reading, passed.

IN THE SENATE

April 19, 1979                    Introduced and referred to  
   Committee on Judiciary.

April 20, 1979                    Committee recommend bill, not  
   concurred.

IN THE HOUSE

April 20, 1979                    Returned from Senate, not  
   concurred.

1 *House* JOINT RESOLUTION NO. *69*  
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Walton House Lindstrom Meier*  
 3 *Surtist Bennett Dripila Jay Ellis Eddy Limited*  
 4 *John Payne Phil Kenner Benjamin*  
 5 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF *Day*  
 6 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE *Kibria*  
 7 ASSIGNMENT OF AN INTERIM COMMITTEE TO STUDY CHILD ABUSE IN *H. Peltz*  
 8 MONTANA. *Frates Dawn Metcalf Payne Routh*  
 9 *Foye*

9 WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are increasing and  
 10 have become a significant national problem; and  
 11 WHEREAS, the exact extent of the problem in Montana is  
 12 not known; and  
 13 WHEREAS, there are 900 children who have been abused,  
 14 neglected, or exploited and receive some form of out-of-home  
 15 care, including 600 children in foster care, and another  
 16 2,000 to 3,000 children who receive some form of in-home  
 17 service from the Department of Social and Rehabilitation  
 18 Services; and  
 19 WHEREAS, many children remain in foster care or have  
 20 other forms of out-of-home care throughout their childhood;  
 21 and  
 22 WHEREAS, expenditures for children in foster care or  
 23 other forms of care available for abused children are not  
 24 effectively utilized statewide; and  
 25 WHEREAS, the services that are available for children

1 who have been abused, neglected, or exploited involve many  
 2 groups and agencies whose efforts are often duplicated; and  
 3 WHEREAS, 1979 has been declared the International Year  
 4 of the Child, with primary focus on preserving and  
 5 strengthening families; and  
 6 WHEREAS, Congress has enacted legislation for  
 7 handicapped and Indian children that has created additional  
 8 areas of concern regarding abused, neglected, or exploited  
 9 children; and  
 10 WHEREAS, the National Congress has expressed concern  
 11 for the need to promote greater accountability for all  
 12 children in foster care, to promote greater permanency for  
 13 children, to facilitate the adoption of children who would  
 14 otherwise remain in indeterminate foster care, and to reduce  
 15 the wasteful expenditure of funds by all agencies involved  
 16 in placing abused children outside of their natural homes;  
 17 and  
 18 WHEREAS, the Legislature has enacted laws directing  
 19 state agencies to carry out responsible planning for  
 20 children; and  
 21 WHEREAS, the 46th Legislature enacted revisions to the  
 22 Montana child abuse and neglect laws that declare it to be  
 23 the policy of the state to provide for the protection of  
 24 children whose health and welfare are adversely affected and  
 25 to preserve the family unit.

-2- *HJR 69*  
 INTRODUCED BILL

1  
2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE  
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

4 That an interim committee be assigned to study the  
5 total system providing services to Montana's children who  
6 are abused, neglected, or exploited. The purpose of the  
7 study will be the development of an integrated and  
8 consistent method of providing services to children who are  
9 so abused. The study shall include but not be limited to the  
10 following:

11 (1) a determination of the extent and severity of  
12 child abuse, neglect, and exploitation in Montana;

13 (2) an examination of the services that are available  
14 to abused, neglected, or exploited children, including  
15 foster care, adoption, residential care, group home care,  
16 and the in-home care that is provided when an abused child  
17 is not removed from his natural family;

18 (3) an examination of any alternative forms of care  
19 for abused, neglected, or exploited children that are not  
20 now available in the state;

21 (4) an examination, and if needed the development, of  
22 criteria used to determine when an abused child should be  
23 removed from his natural home and placed into either an  
24 adoptive home, foster home, group home, or a residential  
25 facility;

1 (5) a review of the policies and procedures of all  
2 agencies that place children outside of their own home;

3 (6) identification of the needs of those children who  
4 are placed in out-of-state care facilities;

5 (7) an examination of all of the payment mechanisms  
6 that are used by all the agencies that place children  
7 outside their natural homes;

8 (8) an examination of the effects on abused children  
9 who are in the social services delivery system due to the  
10 autonomy and independent decisions that are made by the  
11 educational and judicial systems;

12 (9) an examination of the needs of children who have  
13 been abused, neglected, or exploited that is compared to the  
14 forms of service that are available to such children in  
15 order to determine the adequacy of existing services and  
16 whether or not there are gaps in services that need to be  
17 filled.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the interim committee  
19 actively solicit the advice of the Governor's office; the  
20 Departments of Social and Rehabilitation Services,  
21 Institutions, Health and Environmental Sciences, and  
22 Justice; the Office of the Superintendent of Public  
23 Instruction; the Montana Probation Officers' Association,  
24 the State Judges' Association, the Inter-Tribal Policy  
25 Board, the Foster Parent Association, the County Attorneys'

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1 Association; and any other interested private agencies or  
2 groups, as appropriate.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the interim committee  
4 report its findings and proposed legislation, if any, to the  
5 47th Legislature.

-End-

Approved by Committee on Judiciary

1 *House* JOINT RESOLUTION NO. *Palmer* *69*  
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Walton House* *Walters* *Nease*  
 3 *Curtis Bennett* *D. Popham* *For* *Ellis* *Edwards* *Hamstad*  
 4 *John* *Wayne* *Farr* *Hammis* *Benjamin*  
 5 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF *Day*  
 6 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE *Harris*  
 7 ASSIGNMENT OF AN INTERIM COMMITTEE TO STUDY CHILD ABUSE IN *H. R. 69*  
 8 MONTANA. *Travis Dorn* *Metcalfe* *Ague* *Rosenthal*  
 9 *Fayer*

9 WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are increasing and  
10 have become a significant national problem; and

11 WHEREAS, the exact extent of the problem in Montana is  
12 not known; and

13 WHEREAS, there are 900 children who have been abused,  
14 neglected, or exploited and receive some form of out-of-home  
15 care, including 600 children in foster care, and another  
16 2,000 to 3,000 children who receive some form of in-home  
17 service from the Department of Social and Rehabilitation  
18 Services; and

19 WHEREAS, many children remain in foster care or have  
20 other forms of out-of-home care throughout their childhood;  
21 and

22 WHEREAS, expenditures for children in foster care or  
23 other forms of care available for abused children are not  
24 effectively utilized statewide; and

25 WHEREAS, the services that are available for children

1 who have been abused, neglected, or exploited involve many  
2 groups and agencies whose efforts are often duplicated; and

3 WHEREAS, 1979 has been declared the International Year  
4 of the Child, with primary focus on preserving and  
5 strengthening families; and

6 WHEREAS, Congress has enacted legislation for  
7 handicapped and Indian children that has created additional  
8 areas of concern regarding abused, neglected, or exploited  
9 children; and

10 WHEREAS, the National Congress has expressed concern  
11 for the need to promote greater accountability for all  
12 children in foster care, to promote greater permanency for  
13 children, to facilitate the adoption of children who would  
14 otherwise remain in indeterminate foster care, and to reduce  
15 the wasteful expenditure of funds by all agencies involved  
16 in placing abused children outside of their natural homes;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, the Legislature has enacted laws directing  
19 state agencies to carry out responsible planning for  
20 children; and

21 WHEREAS, the 46th Legislature enacted revisions to the  
22 Montana child abuse and neglect laws that declare it to be  
23 the policy of the state to provide for the protection of  
24 children whose health and welfare are adversely affected and  
25 to preserve the family unit.

-2- HJR 69  
SECOND READING

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17 is not removed from his natural family;

18 (3) an examination of any alternative forms of care  
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20 now available in the state;

21 (4) an examination, and if needed the development, of  
22 criteria used to determine when an abused child should be  
23 removed from his natural home and placed into either an  
24 adoptive home, foster home, group home, or a residential  
25 facility;

1 (5) a review of the policies and procedures of all  
2 agencies that place children outside of their own home;

3 (6) identification of the needs of those children who  
4 are placed in out-of-state care facilities;

5 (7) an examination of all of the payment mechanisms  
6 that are used by all the agencies that place children  
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8 (8) an examination of the effects on abused children  
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24 the State Judges' Association, the Inter-Tribal Policy  
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1 Association; and any other interested private agencies or  
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3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the interim committee  
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-End-

HJR 69

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