

SENATE BILL 373

IN THE SENATE

February 5, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Safety.
February 6, 1979	Fiscal note requested.
February 9, 1979	Fiscal note returned.
February 19, 1979	Committee recommend bill, do not pass.

1 *Senate* BILL NO. *373*
2 INTRODUCED BY *S. Brown*

3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A FEE TO
5 BE CHARGED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION
6 SERVICES FOR ADOPTIONS THAT ARE NOT SUBSIDIZED."

7
8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

9 Section 1. Fee to be charged -- exception. (1) The
10 department of social and rehabilitation services shall
11 establish a fee for the adoption of children in their care.
12 The fee shall be based on the average fee charged by private
13 adoption agencies. The fee may not be charged for adoptions
14 subsidized under The Subsidized Adoption Act of 1977.

15 (2) Fifty percent of the fee shall be returned to the
16 proposed adoptive parents if the child is not finally
17 adopted.

-End-

SB373
INTRODUCED BILL

STATE OF MONTANA

Request No. 241-79

FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received February 6, 1979, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for Senate Bill 373 pursuant to Chapter 53, Laws of Montana, 1965 - Thirty-Ninth Legislative Assembly. Background information used in developing this Fiscal Note is available from the Office of Budget and Program Planning, to members of the Legislature upon request.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

Senate Bill No. 373 would require the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services to charge a fee, based on the average fee charged by private agencies, for all adoptions of children in their care.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. In 1978 the Department made 81 adoptive placements. Of this number 36 were infants and 45 were older and hard to place children. Seven were placed under the Subsidized Adoption Act of 1977. This number of placements will continue in FY 80-81.
2. The average fee charged by private adoption agencies is \$1,200.
3. There will be no added administrative cost associated with collecting the fee.
4. The impact of a fee on the ability of the Department to find adoptive placements for older children and those with special needs is not known. The fiscal impact is shown for each of the two extremes; i.e. all hard to place children are placed and none are placed.
5. Foster care cost for children not placed is \$1,800 per year.

FISCAL IMPACT:

#1. Adoptive placements are secured for all hard to place children

	FY 80	FY 81	Total
Revenue from fees	\$88,800	\$88,800	\$177,600
Costs	0	0	0
Net revenue	<u>\$88,800</u>	<u>\$88,800</u>	<u>\$177,600</u>

#2. Adoptive placements are not secured for hard to place children

Revenue from fees	\$43,200	\$ 43,200	\$ 86,400
Foster Care costs	<u>68,400</u>	<u>136,800</u>	<u>205,200</u>
Net cost	<u>(25,200)</u>	<u>(93,600)</u>	<u>(118,800)</u>

The additional revenue (cost) will accrue to the State General Fund.

Richard L. Drayton
BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

Date: 2/9/79