

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 26

INTRODUCED BY MOORE, DUSSAULT, MARKS

IN THE HOUSE

February 7, 1981	Introduced and referred to Committee on Human Services.
March 26, 1981	Committee recommend bill do pass as amended. Report adopted.
March 28, 1981	Bill printed and placed on members' desks.
April 1, 1981	Second reading, do pass as amended.
April 3, 1981	Correctly engrossed.
April 4, 1981	Third reading, passed. Ayes, 80; Noes, 14. Transmitted to Senate.

IN THE SENATE

April 6, 1981	By motion and consent bill allowed to be received and considered this session.
April 11, 1981	Introduced and referred to Committee on State Administration.
April 15, 1981	Committee recommend bill be concurred in. Report adopted.
April 16, 1981	Second reading, concurred in.
	Third reading, concurred in. Ayes, 40; Noes, 10.

IN THE HOUSE

1 -HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 26
2 INTRODUCED BY Moore, Shuman, Nash

3
4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN
6 INTERIM STUDY OF THE FEASIBILITY OF COMBINING IN ONE
7 DEPARTMENT FUNCTIONS RELATING TO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
8 PRESENTLY PERFORMED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND
9 REHABILITATION SERVICES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS.

10

11 WHEREAS, the Department of Institutions and the
12 Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services both
13 presently perform functions relating to developmental
14 disabilities; and

15 WHEREAS, combining the functions in one department may
16 promote quality and efficiency in performance of these
17 functions.

18

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE
20 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

21 (1) That the Legislative Finance Committee be assigned
22 to study the feasibility of combining in one department
23 functions relating to developmental disabilities presently
24 performed by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation
25 Services and the Department of Institutions.

1 (2) That the committee submit to the 48th Legislature
2 a report of its findings and recommendations for
3 legislation, if any, to implement such findings.

-End-

Approved by Comm. On Human Services

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8 PRESENTLY--PERFORMED--BY--THE--DEPARTMENT--OF--SOCIAL--AND
9 REHABILITATION--SERVICES--AND--THE--DEPARTMENT--OF--INSTITUTIONS--
10 RESPECTIVE BENEFITS OF INSTITUTIONAL CARE AND COMMUNITY CARE
11 FOR RECIPIENTS OF SERVICES IN YOUTH PROGRAMS; DEVELOPMENTAL
12 DISABILITIES PROGRAMS; AND MENTAL HEALTH, ALCOHOLISM, AND
13 DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAMS AND OF THE FEASIBILITY OF
14 REORGANIZATION OF FUNCTIONS PERFORMED ON BEHALF OF THE
15 RECIPIENT GROUPS.

17 WHEREAS, the Department of Institutions and the
18 Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services both
19 presently perform functions relating to developmental
20 disabilities and

21 WHEREAS—combining-the-functions-in-one-department-may
22 promote-quality--and--efficiency--in--performance--of--these
23 functions;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE,

1 BF-REPRESENTATIVES-BF-THE-STATE-BF-MONTANA+

2 t1)--that-the-legislative-Finance-Committee-be-assigned

3 to-study-the-feasibility--of--combining--in--one--department

4 functions--relating--to-developmental-disabilities-presently

5 performed-by-the-Department--of--Social--and--Rehabilitation

6 Services-and-the-Department-of-Institutions.

7 t2)--that--the-committee-submit-to-the-48th-legislature

8 a--report--of--its--findings--and--recommendations--for

9 legislation--if-any--to-implement-such-findings--

11 WHEREAS, MONTANA'S FIRST DEINSTITUTIONALIZATION EFFORT
12 WAS THE CLOSURE OF TWIN BRIDGES CHILDREN'S CENTER IN 1975
13 WITH THE RESULTING MOVEMENT OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN INTO
14 COMMUNITY GROUP HOMES AND OTHER SERVICES; AND
15 WHEREAS, DEINSTITUTIONALIZATION OF RESIDENTS OF WARM
16 SPRINGS STATE HOSPITAL AND BOULDER RIVER SCHOOL AND HOSPITAL
17 STARTED IN 1974, RESULTING IN A MASSIVE DECREASE IN NUMBERS
18 OF PERSONS TREATED IN THOSE INSTITUTIONS AS WELL AS A
19 DRAMATIC INCREASE IN COMMUNITY PROGRAMS DEVELOPED TO MEET
20 THEIR NEEDS; AND

21 WHEREAS, BOTH COMMUNITY AND INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS FOR
22 THOSE SUFFERING FROM ALCOHOL AND DRUG DEPENDENCE HAVE BEEN
23 DEVELOPED IN RESPONSE TO FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS WHICH HAVE
24 DEFINED ALCOHOLISM AS A DISEASE AND CREATED SOURCES OF FUNDS
25 FOR TREATMENT; AND

1 WHEREAS, THERE HAS BEEN A CONTINUING CONTROVERSY OVER
 2 THE MERITS OF INSTITUTIONAL CARE VERSUS COMMUNITY-BASED
 3 CARE; AND

4 WHEREAS, FOUR STATE DEPARTMENTS SHARE SOME OF THE
 5 RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SERVICES TO YOUTH, THE DEVELOPMENTALLY
 6 DISABLED, THE MENTALLY ILL, AND THE ALCOHOL AND DRUG
 7 DEPENDENT; AND

8 WHEREAS, DECREASING FEDERAL FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR SUCH
 9 SERVICES REQUIRE THE LEGISLATURE TO MAKE ALL POSSIBLE
 10 ADMINISTRATIVE COST SAVINGS IN ORDER TO CONTINUE THOSE
 11 SERVICES WHICH ARE MOST BENEFICIAL TO THE RECIPIENTS.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE
 13 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

14 THAT AN APPROPRIATE INTERIM COMMITTEE BE ASSIGNED TO
 15 STUDY:

16 (1) THE EXTENT OF THE NEED FOR SERVICES TO YOUTH, THE
 17 DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED, THE MENTALLY ILL, AND THE DRUG
 18 DEPENDENT;

19 (2) THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS AND OF
 20 COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS FOR PERSONS IN EACH OF THESE
 21 GROUPS;

22 (3) THE COST OF TREATMENT WITHIN INSTITUTIONS AND
 23 WITHIN COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES;

24 (4) THE EFFECT ON THE EMPLOYEES OF INSTITUTIONS AND OF

1 COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES OF ANY CHANGES RECOMMENDED;
 2 (5) ALTERNATIVES TO THE EXISTING ADMINISTRATIVE
 3 STRUCTURE WHICH WOULD PROVIDE BETTER SERVICE TO EACH GROUP,
 4 INCLUDING COMBINING CERTAIN FUNCTIONS WITHIN ONE DEPARTMENT
 5 OR COMBINING SOME SERVICES INTO REGIONAL CENTERS;
 6 (6) THE RELATIONSHIP OF COMMUNITY PRIVATE NONPROFIT
 7 SERVICE CORPORATIONS TO THE STATE AND WAYS TO CLARIFY DUTIES
 8 AND RESPONSIBILITIES; AND
 9 (7) ALTERNATIVE FINANCING MECHANISMS WHICH WOULD ALLOW
 10 FOR THE MOST APPROPRIATE TREATMENT TO THE INDIVIDUAL WHETHER
 11 IN THE INSTITUTIONS OR IN THE COMMUNITY.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT THE COMMITTEE REPORT ITS
 13 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE 48TH LEGISLATURE AND, IF
 14 NECESSARY, DRAFT LEGISLATION TO IMPLEMENT ITS
 15 RECOMMENDATIONS.

-End-

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