

SENATE BILL NO. 6

1st Special Session

Introduced and Referred to Committee on Finance & Claims:

11/16/81

Hearing: 11/19/81

Special Session
Senate BILL NO. 6

1
2 INTRODUCED BY REGAN

3 BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
4 SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

5
6 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ELIMINATING THE
7 REQUIREMENT THAT THE SALARIES AND TRAVEL EXPENSES OF COUNTY
8 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE STAFF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS
9 BE REIMBURSED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION
10 SERVICES FROM THE COUNTY POOR FUNDS; AMENDING SECTION
11 53-2-304, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

12
13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

14 Section 1. Section 53-2-304, MCA, is amended to read:
15 "53-2-304. Staff personnel of county department. (1)
16 Each county board shall select and appoint from a list of
17 qualified persons furnished by the department of social and
18 rehabilitation services such staff personnel as are
19 necessary. The staff personnel in each county shall consist
20 of at least one qualified staff worker (or investigator) and
21 such clerks and stenographers as may be decided necessary.
22 If conditions warrant, the county board, with the approval
23 of the department of social and rehabilitation services, may
24 appoint some fully qualified person listed by the department
25 as supervisor of its staff personnel. The staff personnel of

1 each county department are directly responsible to the
2 county board, but the department of social and
3 rehabilitation services may supervise such county employees
4 in respect to the efficient and proper performance of their
5 duties. The county board of public welfare may not dismiss
6 any member of the staff personnel without the approval of
7 the department of social and rehabilitation services, but
8 the department may request the county board to dismiss any
9 member of the staff personnel for inefficiency,
10 incompetence, or similar cause.

11 (2) Public assistance staff personnel attached to the
12 county board shall be paid from state public assistance
13 funds both their ~~salaries~~ and their travel expenses as
14 provided for in 2-18-501 through 2-18-503 when away from the
15 county seat in the performance of their duties and their
16 ~~salaries~~, but ~~the county board of public welfare shall~~
17 ~~reimburse the department of social and rehabilitation~~
18 ~~services from county poor funds the full amount of the~~
19 ~~salaries and travel expenses not reimbursed to the~~
20 ~~department by the federal government and the full amount of~~
21 ~~the department's administrative costs which are allocated by~~
22 ~~the department to the county for the administration of~~
23 ~~county welfare programs and not reimbursed to the department~~
24 ~~by the federal government. Under circumstances prescribed by~~
25 ~~the department of social and rehabilitation services, the~~

INTRODUCED BILL

1 reimbursement by the county board of public welfare may be
2 less than the county share as prescribed above. All other
3 administrative costs of the county department shall also be
4 paid from county poor funds.

5 ~~(3) On or before the 20th day of the month following~~
6 ~~the month for which the payments to the public assistance~~
7 ~~staff personnel of the county were made, the department of~~
8 ~~social and rehabilitation services shall present to the~~
9 ~~county department of public welfare a claim for the required~~
10 ~~reimbursements. The county board shall make such~~
11 ~~reimbursements within 20 days after the presentation of the~~
12 ~~claim and the department of social and rehabilitation~~
13 ~~services shall credit (add) all such reimbursements to its~~
14 ~~account for administrative costs.~~

15 Section 2. Effective date. This act is effective on
16 January 1, 1982.

-End-

STATE OF MONTANA

REQUEST NO. 3-SP-81

FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received November 16, 19 81, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for Senate Bill 6 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 6 is an act eliminating the requirement that the salaries and travel expenses of county public assistance staff personnel and administrative costs be reimbursed from the county poor funds.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. The act will be effective January 1, 1982.
2. The number of county staff does not increase significantly from current levels.

FISCAL IMPACT:

	<u>FY 82</u>	<u>FY 83</u>	<u>Biennium</u>
County expenditures under current law for operating costs	\$1,848,557	\$4,788,790	\$6,637,347
General fund expenditures under current law for operating costs	-0-	-0-	-0-
County expenditures under proposed law for operating costs	-0-	-0-	-0-
General fund expenditures under proposed law	1,848,557	4,788,790	6,637,347
Increased general fund expenditures	<u>1,848,557</u>	<u>4,788,790</u>	<u>6,637,347</u>

LOCAL IMPACT:

County poor fund levies of the various counties will experience a cost savings equal to the amount of the increased general fund participation under this proposal.

David M. Lewis
BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

Date: 11/17/81