

April 1, 1985

Second reading, concurred in.

Third reading, concurred in.
Ayes, 50; Noes, 0.

Returned to House.

IN THE HOUSE

April 2, 1985

Received from Senate.

Sent to enrolling.

Reported correctly enrolled.

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19
2 INTRODUCED BY Walton Hayduk

3
4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE
6 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES TO PROVIDE
7 PRIORITY REFERRAL AND PLACEMENT FOR PREGNANT TEENAGERS.

8
9 WHEREAS, teenage pregnancy and young, single parenting
10 are recognized as a state as well as a national crisis, with
11 4 in 10 teenage girls becoming pregnant and with 97% of
12 those who carry their pregnancies to term choosing to parent
13 their children; and

14 WHEREAS, teenage pregnancy often leads to an increase
15 in the school dropout rate, poor job skills, and a life of
16 poverty; and

17 WHEREAS, young, single parenting often leads to early
18 marriage, divorce, poverty, frustration, and child abuse or
19 neglect; and

20 WHEREAS, the State of Montana sets a high priority on
21 using available comprehensive services to assist young,
22 single, pregnant women and young, single mothers and their
23 children; and

24 WHEREAS, comprehensive services have proven capable of
25 changing the cycle of poverty and abuse for 50% to 80% of

1 the clients served; and
2 WHEREAS, the State of Montana wishes to take advantage
3 of the opportunity of assisting these young women and their
4 children in improving their lives.

5
6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE
7 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

8 (1) That the Legislature strongly urge the Department
9 of Social and Rehabilitation Services to provide priority
10 referral and placement for comprehensive services for young,
11 single, pregnant women and young, single mothers.

12 (2) That the Legislature urge that these comprehensive
13 services include prenatal care, indepth counseling to
14 explore options as to parenting or planning adoption, and
15 parenting classes and supervision through which skills can
16 be learned and practiced to provide the best possible
17 parenting for the children involved.

-End-



INTRODUCED BILL
HJR 19

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19
2 INTRODUCED BY WALDRON, MAZUREK, SPAETH,
3 HARPER, BERGENE, WINSLOW, FULLER, E. SMITH,
4 VAN VALKENBURG, STEPHENS, HANNAH, MARKS
5

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