# HOUSE BILL NO. 21

# INTRODUCED BY MARKS, SMITH, OWENS, SWIFT, HAYNE

# BY REQUEST OF GOVERNOR STEPHENS

## IN THE HOUSE

DECEMBER 30, 1988	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR & EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS.
JANUARY 2, 1989	FIRST READING.
JANUARY 6, 1989	ON MOTION BY CHIEF SPONSOR, REPRESENTATIVES SMITH, OWENS, SWIFT, AND HAYNE ADDED AS SPONSORS.
JANUARY 20, 1989	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL DO PASS AS AMENDED. REPORT ADOPTED.
JANUARY 21, 1989	PRINTING REPORT.
JANUARY 23, 1989	SECOND READING, DO PASS.
JANUARY 24, 1989	ENGROSSING REPORT.
JANUARY 25, 1989	THIRD READING, PASSED. AYES, 93; NOES, 1.
	TRANSMITTED TO SENATE.
IN	THE SENATE
JANUARY 26, 1989	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR & EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS.
FEBRUARY 7, 1989	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL BE CONCURRED IN. REPORT ADOPTED.
FEBRUARY 9, 1989	SECOND READING, CONCURRED IN.
FEBRUARY 11, 1989	THIRD READING, CONCURRED IN. AYES, 37; NOES, 11.
	RETURNED TO HOUSE.

## IN THE HOUSE

FEBRUARY 13, 1989

RECEIVED FROM SENATE.

SENT TO ENROLLING.

REPORTED CORRECTLY ENROLLED.

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 21	1	undue economic hardship on family employers and may
2	INTRODUCED BY MARKS	2	discourage and inhibit such employment; and
3	BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	3	WHEREAS, workers' compensation insurance is duplicative
4		4	of other nonwork-related insurance that the family employer
5	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO EXEMPT EMPLOYMENT OF	5	may wish to provide for dependent members of his family; and
6	DEPENDENT MEMBERS OF AN EMPLOYER'S FAMILY FROM THE WORKERS'	6	WHEREAS, the distinction between performance of normal
7	COMPENSATION ACT; AMENDING SECTION 39-71-401, MCA; AND	7	family responsibilities and "employment" for which workers'
8	PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."	8	compensation coverage is required is in many instances
9		9	difficult to determine within a family unit, and the
10	WHEREAS, section 39-71-401(2)(a), MCA, excludes	10	uncertainty of what constitutes family employment may result
11	employment of members of an employer's family dwelling in	11	in many employers being unintentionally uninsured, resulting
12	the employer's household from application of the Workers'	12	in unknown liabilities for the state compensation insurance
13	Compensation Act unless the employer elects coverage; and	13	fund and the uninsured employer's fund.
14	WHEREAS, the Montana Supreme Court determined in	14	THEREFORE, the Legislature of the State of Montana
15	Cottrill v. State Compensation Insurance Fund, 44 St. Rep.	15	finds it is reasonable and necessary to exclude from the
16	1762 (1987), that the Legislature failed to indicate a	16	Workers' Compensation Act employment of dependent members of
17	legitimate state interest or objective in excluding such	17	the employer's immediate family for whom an exemption may be
18	employments from the Workers' Compensation Act and therefore	18	claimed under the federal Internal Revenue Code.
19	voided the statutory family member exemption; and	19	
20	WHEREAS, a person has both legal and moral duties to	20	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
21	provide for the needs of members of his family who are	21	Section 1. Section 39-71-401, MCA, is amended to read:
22	dependent upon him for support; and	22	"39-71-401. Employments covered and employments
23	WHEREAS, the obligation of providing workers'	23	exempted. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this
24	compensation insurance for dependent family member employees	24	section, the Workers' Compensation Act applies to all
25	in addition to other family support obligations creates an	25	employers as defined in 39-71-117 and to all employees as
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Montana Legislative Council

INTRODUCED BILL -2-HB 21

defined in 39-71-118. An employer who has any employee in service under any appointment or contract of hire, expressed or implied, oral or written, shall elect to be bound by the provisions of compensation plan No. 1, 2, or 3. Every employee whose employer is bound by the Workers' Compensation Act is subject to and bound by the compensation plan that has been elected by the employer.

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- (2) Unless the employer elects coverage for these employments under this chapter and an insurer allows such an election, the Workers' Compensation Act does not apply to any of the following employments:
  - (a) household and domestic employment;
  - (b) casual employment as defined in 39-71-116;
- (c) employment of members a dependent member of an employer's family dwelling-in-the-employer's-household for whom an exemption may be claimed by the employer under the federal Internal Revenue Code;
- (d) employment of sole proprietors or working members of a partnership, except as provided in subsection (3);
- (e) employment of a broker or salesman performing under a license issued by the board of realty regulation;
- (f) employment of a direct seller engaged in the sale of consumer products, primarily in the customer's home;
- 24 (g) employment for which a rule of liability for 25 injury, occupational disease, or death is provided under the

laws of the United States;

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- (h) employment of any person performing services in return for aid or sustenance only, except employment of a volunteer under 67-2-105;
- (i) employment with any railroad engaged in interstate commerce, except that railroad construction work is included in and subject to the provisions of this chapter;
- 8 (j) employment as an official, including a timer,
  9 referee, or judge, at a school amateur athletic event,
  10 unless the person is otherwise employed by a school
  11 district:
  - (k) any person performing services as a newspaper carrier or free-lance correspondent if the person performing the services or a parent or guardian of the person performing the services in the case of a minor has acknowledged in writing that the person performing the services and the services are not covered. As used in this subsection "free-lance correspondent" is a person who submits articles or photographs for publication and is paid by the article or by the photograph. As used in this subsection "newspaper carrier":
  - (i) is a person who provides a newspaper with the service of delivering newspapers singly or in bundles; but
- (ii) does not include an employee of the paper who,incidentally to his main duties, carries or delivers papers.

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(3) (a) A sole proprietor or a working member of a partnership who holds himself out or considers himself an independent contractor [and who is not contracting] for cosmetologist's services or barber's services as defined in 39-51-204(1)(1) must elect to be bound personally and individually by the provisions of compensation plan No. 1, 2, or 3, but he may apply to the division for an exemption from the Workers' Compensation Act for himself.

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- (b) The application must be made in accordance with the rules adopted by the division. The division may deny the application only if it determines that the applicant is not an independent contractor.
- (c) When an application is approved by the division, it is conclusive as to the status of an independent contractor and precludes the applicant from obtaining benefits under this chapter.
- (d) When an election of an exemption is approved by the division, the election remains effective and the independent contractor retains his status as an independent contractor until he notifies the division of any change in his status and provides a description of his present work status.
- 23 (e) If the division denies the application for 24 exemption, the applicant may contest the denial by 25 petitioning for review of the decision by an appeals referee

- in the manner provided for in 39-51-1109. An applicant dissatisfied with the decision of the appeals referee may appeal the decision in accordance with the procedure established in 39-51-2403 and 39-51-2404.
- for its officers and other employees under the provisions of compensation plan No. 1, 2, or 3. However, pursuant to such rules as the division promulgates and subject in all cases to approval by the division, an officer of a private corporation may elect not to be bound as an employee under this chapter by giving a written notice, on a form provided by the division, served in the following manner:
- 13 (i) if the employer has elected to be bound by the 14 provisions of compensation plan No. 1, by delivering the 15 notice to the board of directors of the employer and the 16 division: or
- 17 (ii) if the employer has elected to be bound by the 18 provisions of compensation plan No. 2 or 3, by delivering 19 the notice to the board of directors of the employer, the 20 division, and the insurer.
- 21 (b) If the employer changes plans or insurers, the 22 officer's previous election is not effective and the officer 23 shall again serve notice as provided if he elects not to be 24 bound.
- 25 (c) The appointment or election of an employee as an

officer of a corporation for the purpose of excluding the employee from coverage under this chapter does not entitle the officer to elect not to be bound as an employee under this chapter. In any case, the officer must sign the notice required by subsection (4)(a) under oath or affirmation, and he is subject to the penalties for false swearing under 45-7-202 if he falsifies the notice.

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- (5) Each employer shall post a sign in the workplace at the locations where notices to employees are normally posted, informing employees about the employer's current provision of compensation insurance. A workplace is any location where an employee performs any work-related act in the course of employment, regardless of whether the location is temporary or permanent, and includes the place of business or property of a third person while the employer has access to or control over such place of business or property for the purpose of carrying on his usual trade, business, or occupation. The sign will be provided by the division, distributed through insurers or directly by the division, and posted by employers in accordance with rules adopted by the division. An employer who purposely or knowingly fails to post a sign as provided in this subsection is subject to a \$50 fine for each citation."
- Section 2. Extension of authority. Any existing authority to make rules on the subject of the provisions of

- [this act] is extended to the provisions of [this act].
- Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is effective

3 July 1, 1989.

-End-

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 21
2	INTRODUCED BY MARKS
3	BY REQUEST OF GOVERNOR STEPHENS
4	
5	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO EXEMPT EMPLOYMENT OF
6	DEPENDENT MEMBERS OF AN EMPLOYER'S FAMILY FROM THE WORKERS'
7	COMPENSATION ACT; AMENDING SECTION 39-71-401, MCA; AND
8	PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."
9	
10	WHEREAS, section 39-71-401(2)(a), MCA, excludes
11	employment of members of an employer's family dwelling in
12	the employer's household from application of the Workers'
13	Compensation Act unless the employer elects coverage; and
14	WHEREAS, the Montana Supreme Court determined in
15	Cottrill v. State Compensation Insurance Fund, 44 St. Rep.
16	1762 (1987), that the Legislature failed to indicate a
17	legitimate state interest or objective in excluding such
18	employments from the Workers' Compensation Act and therefore
19	voided the statutory family member exemption; and
20	WHEREAS, a person has both legal and moral duties to
21	provide for the needs of members of his family who are
22	dependent upon him for support; and
23	WHEREAS, the obligation of providing workers'
24	compensation insurance for dependent family member employees
25	in addition to other family support obligations creates an

1	undue economic nardship on ramily employers and may
2	discourage and inhibit such employment; and
3	WHEREAS, workers' compensation insurance is duplicative
4	of other nonwork-related insurance that the family employer
5	may wish to provide for dependent members of his family; and
6	WHEREAS, the distinction between performance of normal
7	family responsibilities and "employment" for which workers'
8	compensation coverage is required is in many instances
9	difficult to determine within a family unit, and the
10	uncertainty of what constitutes family employment may result
11	in many employers being unintentionally uninsured, resulting
12	in unknown liabilities for the state compensation insurance
13	fund and the uninsured employer's fund.
14	THEREFORE, the Legislature of the State of Montana
15	finds it is reasonable and necessary to exclude from the
16	Workers' Compensation Act employment of dependent members of
17	the employer's immediate family for whom an exemption may be

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

claimed under the federal Internal Revenue Code.

Section 1. Section 39-71-401, MCA, is amended to read:

"39-71-401. Employments covered and employments

exempted. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this
section, the Workers' Compensation Act applies to all
employers as defined in 39-71-117 and to all employees as

- defined in 39-71-118. An employer who has any employee in service under any appointment or contract of hire, expressed or implied, oral or written, shall elect to be bound by the provisions of compensation plan No. 1, 2, or 3. Every employee whose employer is bound by the Workers' Compensation Act is subject to and bound by the compensation plan that has been elected by the employer.
  - (2) Unless the employer elects coverage for these employments under this chapter and an insurer allows such an election, the Workers' Compensation Act does not apply to any of the following employments:
    - (a) household and domestic employment;

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- (b) casual employment as defined in 39-71-116;
- (c) employment of members a dependent member of an employer's family dwelling-in-the-employer's-household for whom an exemption may be claimed by the employer under the federal Internal Revenue Code;
- (d) employment of sole proprietors or working members of a partnership, except as provided in subsection (3);
- (e) employment of a broker or salesman performing under a license issued by the board of realty regulation;
- (f) employment of a direct seller engaged in the sale of consumer products, primarily in the customer's home;
- 24 (g) employment for which a rule of liability for 25 injury, occupational disease, or death is provided under the

l laws of the United States;

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- 2 (h) employment of any person performing services in 3 return for aid or sustenance only, except employment of a 4 volunteer under 67-2-105;
- 5 (i) employment with any railroad engaged in interstate 6 commerce, except that railroad construction work is included 7 in and subject to the provisions of this chapter;
- 8 (j) employment as an official, including a timer,
  9 referee, or judge, at a school amateur athletic event,
  10 unless the person is otherwise employed by a school
  11 district;
  - (k) any person performing services as a newspaper carrier or free-lance correspondent if the person performing the services or a parent or guardian of the person performing the services in the case of a minor has acknowledged in writing that the person performing the services and the services are not covered. As used in this subsection "free-lance correspondent" is a person who submits articles or photographs for publication and is paid by the article or by the photograph. As used in this subsection "newspaper carrier":
- 22 (i) is a person who provides a newspaper with the 23 service of delivering newspapers singly or in bundles; but 24 (ii) does not include an employee of the paper who,

incidentally to his main duties, carries or delivers papers.

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(3) (a) A sole proprietor or a working member of a partnership who holds himself out or considers himself an independent contractor (and who is not contracting) for cosmetologist's services or barber's services as defined in 39-51-204(1)(1) must elect to be bound personally and individually by the provisions of compensation plan No. 1, 2, or 3, but he may apply to the division for an exemption from the Workers' Compensation Act for himself.

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- (c) When an application is approved by the division, it is conclusive as to the status of an independent contractor and precludes the applicant from obtaining benefits under this chapter.
- (d) When an election of an exemption is approved by the division, the election remains effective and the independent contractor retains his status as an independent contractor until he notifies the division of any change in his status and provides a description of his present work status.
- 23 (e) If the division denies the application for 24 exemption, the applicant may contest the denial by 25 petitioning for review of the decision by an appeals referee

- in the manner provided for in 39-51-1109. An applicant dissatisfied with the decision of the appeals referee may appeal the decision in accordance with the procedure established in 39-51-2403 and 39-51-2404.
- (4) (a) A private corporation shall provide coverage for its officers and other employees under the provisions of compensation plan No. 1, 2, or 3. However, pursuant to such rules as the division promulgates and subject in all cases to approval by the division, an officer of a private corporation may elect not to be bound as an employee under this chapter by giving a written notice, on a form provided by the division, served in the following manner:
- (i) if the employer has elected to be bound by the provisions of compensation plan No. 1, by delivering the notice to the board of directors of the employer and the division; or
- (ii) if the employer has elected to be bound by the provisions of compensation plan No. 2 or 3, by delivering the notice to the board of directors of the employer, the division, and the insurer.
- 21 (b) If the employer changes plans or insurers, the 22 officer's previous election is not effective and the officer 23 shall again serve notice as provided if he elects not to be 24 bound.
- 25 (c) The appointment or election of an employee as an

officer of a corporation for the purpose of excluding the employee from coverage under this chapter does not entitle the officer to elect not to be bound as an employee under this chapter. In any case, the officer must sign the notice required by subsection (4)(a) under oath or affirmation, and he is subject to the penalties for false swearing under 45-7-202 if he falsifies the notice.

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- (5) Each employer shall post a sign in the workplace at the locations where notices to employees are normally posted, informing employees about the employer's current provision of compensation insurance. A workplace is any location where an employee performs any work-related act in the course of employment, regardless of whether the location is temporary or permanent, and includes the place of business or property of a third person while the employer has access to or control over such place of business or property for the purpose of carrying on his usual trade, business, or occupation. The sign will be provided by the division, distributed through insurers or directly by the division, and posted by employers in accordance with rules adopted by the division. An employer who purposely or knowingly fails to post a sign as provided in this subsection is subject to a \$50 fine for each citation."
- Section 2. Extension of authority. Any existing 24 authority to make rules on the subject of the provisions of

- 1 [this act] is extended to the provisions of [this act].
- 2 Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is effective
- July 1, 1989.

-End-

#### STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

#### Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for HB021, as introduced.

### DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

A bill that would exempt employment of dependent members of an employer's family from the Workers' Compensation Act.

#### **ASSUMPTIONS:**

- 1. The affected volume of premium is minimal. A similar exemption was in effect until the Supreme Court decision, and insurers have only operated a short period of time under the decision.
- 2. Over time the premium collected for coverage of family members would cover losses incurred by family members. Therefore, there will be no net effect on the insurance carriers or employers.
- 3. The State Compensation Insurance Fund would be required to notify its policyholders and change its forms, instructions, letters, etc.

FISCAL IMPACT:		FY90	
Expenditures:	Current	Proposed	
	Law	Law	Difference
State Special			
Revenue Fund	\$ -0-	\$10,560	<b>\$10,560</b>

Kay Shallleford

DATE // 7

RAY SHACKLEFORD, BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

DATE

ROBERT L. MARKS, PRIMARY SPONSOR

Fiscal Note for HBO21, AS INTRODUCED

HB 21

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#### APPROVED BY COMMITTEE ON LABOR & EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS

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4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO EXEMPT EMPLOYMENT OF
5	DEPENDENT MEMBERS OF AN EMPLOYER'S FAMILY FROM THE WORKERS'
6	COMPENSATION ACT; AMENDING SECTION 39-71-401, MCA; AND
7	PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."
8	
9	WHEREAS, section 39-71-401(2)(a), MCA, excludes
10	employment of members of an employer's family dwelling in
11	the employer's household from application of the Workers'
12	Compensation Act unless the employer elects coverage; and
13	WHEREAS, the Montana Supreme Court determined in
14	Cottrill v. State Compensation Insurance Fund, 44 St. Rep.
15	1762 (1987), that the Legislature failed to indicate a
16	legitimate state interest or objective in excluding such
17	employments from the Workers' Compensation Act and therefore
18	voided the statutory family member exemption; and
19	WHEREAS, a person has both legal and moral duties to
20	provide for the needs of members of his family who are
21	dependent upon him for support; and
22	WHEREAS, the obligation of providing workers'
23	compensation insurance for dependent family member employees
24	in addition to other family support obligations creates an
25	undue economic hardship on family employers and may

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INTRODUCED BY MARKS, SMITH, OWENS, SWIFT, HAYNE

3	of MAY OVERLAP COVERAGE PROVIDED UNDER other nonwork-related
4	insurance that the family employer may wish to provide for
5	dependent members of his family; and
6	WHEREAS, the distinction between performance of norma
7	family responsibilities and "employment" for which workers
8	compensation coverage is required is in many instances
9	difficult to determine within a family unit, and the
10	uncertainty of what constitutes family employment may resul
11	in many employers being unintentionally uninsured, resulting
12	in unknown liabilities for the state compensation insurance
13	fund and the uninsured employer's fund.

WHEREAS, workers' compensation insurance is-duplicative

discourage and inhibit such employment; and

THEREFORE, the Legislature of the State of Montana finds it is reasonable and necessary to exclude from the Workers' Compensation Act employment of dependent members of the employer's immediate family for whom an exemption may be claimed under the federal Internal Revenue Code.

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 39-71-401, MCA, is amended to read:

"39-71-401. Employments covered and employments

exempted. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this

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- (2) Unless the employer elects coverage for these employments under this chapter and an insurer allows such an election, the Workers' Compensation Act does not apply to any of the following employments:
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- (g) employment for which a rule of liability for injury, occupational disease, or death is provided under the

laws of the United States;

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- 2 (h) employment of any person performing services in 3 return for aid or sustenance only, except employment of a 4 volunteer under 67-2-105;
  - (i) employment with any railroad engaged in interstate commerce, except that railroad construction work is included in and subject to the provisions of this chapter;
- 8 (j) employment as an official, including a timer,
  9 referee, or judge, at a school amateur athletic event,
  10 unless the person is otherwise employed by a school
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- (k) any person performing services as a newspaper 12 carrier or free-lance correspondent if the person performing 13 the services or a parent or quardian of the person 14 performing the services in the case of a minor has 15 acknowledged in writing that the person performing the 16 services and the services are not covered. As used in this 17 subsection "free-lance correspondent" is a person who 18 submits articles or photographs for publication and is paid 19 by the article or by the photograph. As used in this 20 subsection "newspaper carrier": 21
- 22 (i) is a person who provides a newspaper with the 23 service of delivering newspapers singly or in bundles; but
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(3) (a) A sole proprietor or a working member of a partnership who holds himself out or considers himself an independent contractor {and who is not contracting} for cosmetologist's services or barber's services as defined in 39-51-204(1)(1) must elect to be bound personally and individually by the provisions of compensation plan No. 1, 2, or 3, but he may apply to the division for an exemption from the Workers' Compensation Act for himself.

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  - (c) When an application is approved by the division, it is conclusive as to the status of an independent contractor and precludes the applicant from obtaining benefits under this chapter.
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-5-

- in the manner provided for in 39-51-1109. An applicant dissatisfied with the decision of the appeals referee may appeal the decision in accordance with the procedure established in 39-51-2403 and 39-51-2404.
- for its officers and other employees under the provisions of compensation plan No. 1, 2, or 3. However, pursuant to such rules as the division promulgates and subject in all cases to approval by the division, an officer of a private corporation may elect not to be bound as an employee under this chapter by giving a written notice, on a form provided by the division, served in the following manner:
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- 17 (ii) if the employer has elected to be bound by the 18 provisions of compensation plan No. 2 or 3, by delivering 19 the notice to the board of directors of the employer, the 20 division, and the insurer.
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- 25 (c) The appointment or election of an employee as an

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- officer of a corporation for the purpose of excluding the employee from coverage under this chapter does not entitle the officer to elect not to be bound as an employee under this chapter. In any case, the officer must sign the notice required by subsection (4)(a) under oath or affirmation, and he is subject to the penalties for false swearing under 45-7-202 if he falsifies the notice.
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  - NEW SECTION. Section 2. Extension of authority. Any existing authority to make rules on the subject of the

- l provisions of [this act] is extended to the provisions of
- 2 [this act].
- NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is
- 4 effective July 1, 1989.

-End-

HB 21

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1	HOUSE BILL NO. 21
2	INTRODUCED BY MARKS, SMITH, OWENS, SWIFT, HAYNE
3	BY REQUEST OF GOVERNOR STEPHENS
4	
5	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO EXEMPT EMPLOYMENT OF
6	DEPENDENT MEMBERS OF AN EMPLOYER'S FAMILY FROM THE WORKERS'
7	COMPENSATION ACT; AMENDING SECTION 39-71-401, MCA; AND
8	PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."
9	
- LO	WHEREAS, section 39-71-401(2)(a), MCA, excludes
11	employment of members of an employer's family dwelling in
12	the employer's household from application of the Workers'
13	Compensation Act unless the employer elects coverage; and
_	WHEREAS, the Montana Supreme Court determined in
14	Cottrill v. State Compensation Insurance Fund, 44 St. Rep.
15	
16	1762 (1987), that the Legislature failed to indicate a
17	legitimate state interest or objective in excluding such
18	employments from the Workers' Compensation Act and therefore
19	voided the statutory family member exemption; and
20	WHEREAS, a person has both legal and moral duties to
21	provide for the needs of members of his family who are
22	dependent upon him for support; and
23	WHEREAS, the obligation of providing workers'
24	compensation insurance for dependent family member employees

in addition to other family support obligations creates an

51st Legislature

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2	discourage and inhibit such employment; and
3	WHEREAS, workers' compensation insurance is-duplicative
4	of MAY OVERLAP COVERAGE PROVIDED UNDER other nonwork-related
5	insurance that the family employer may wish to provide for
6	dependent members of his family; and
7	WHEREAS, the distinction between performance of norma
8	family responsibilities and "employment" for which workers
9	compensation coverage is required is in many instance
10	difficult to determine within a family unit, and th
11	uncertainty of what constitutes family employment may resul
12	in many employers being unintentionally uninsured, resulting
13	in unknown liabilities for the state compensation insuranc
14	fund and the uninsured employer's fund.
15	THEREFORE, the Legislature of the State of Montan

undue economic hardship on family employers and may

Workers' Compensation Act employment of dependent members of the employer's immediate family for whom an exemption may be claimed under the federal Internal Revenue Code.

finds it is reasonable and necessary to exclude from the

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

Section 1. Section 39-71-401, MCA, is amended to read:

"39-71-401. Employments covered and employments

exempted. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the Workers' Compensation Act applies to all

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1 employers as defined in 39-71-117 and to all employees as defined in 39-71-118. An employer who has any employee in service under any appointment or contract of hire, expressed or implied, oral or written, shall elect to be bound by the provisions of compensation plan No. 1, 2, or 3. Every employee whose employer is bound by the Workers' Compensation Act is subject to and bound by the compensation plan that has been elected by the employer.

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- (2) Unless the employer elects coverage for these employments under this chapter and an insurer allows such an election, the Workers' Compensation Act does not apply to any of the following employments:
  - (a) household and domestic employment;
- 14 (b) casual employment as defined in 39-71-116;
  - (c) employment of members a dependent member of an employer's family dwelling-in-the-employer's-household for whom an exemption may be claimed by the employer under the federal Internal Revenue Code;
  - (d) employment of sole proprietors or working members of a partnership, except as provided in subsection (3);
    - (e) employment of a broker or salesman performing under a license issued by the board of realty regulation;

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- 23 (f) employment of a direct seller engaged in the sale 24 of consumer products, primarily in the customer's home:
- 25 (g) employment for which a rule of liability for

- injury, occupational disease, or death is provided under the 1 laws of the United States:
- (h) employment of any person performing services in 3 return for aid or sustenance only, except employment of a volunteer under 67-2-105:
- (i) employment with any railroad engaged in interstate commerce, except that railroad construction work is included in and subject to the provisions of this chapter;
- (i) employment as an official, including a timer, referee, or judge, at a school amateur athletic event, 10 unless the person is otherwise employed by a school 11 12 district;
  - (k) any person performing services as a newspaper carrier or free-lance correspondent if the person performing the services or a parent or quardian of the person performing the services in the case of a minor has acknowledged in writing that the person performing the services and the services are not covered. As used in this subsection "free-lance correspondent" is a person who submits articles or photographs for publication and is paid by the article or by the photograph. As used in this subsection "newspaper carrier":
- (i) is a person who provides a newspaper with the 23 24 service of delivering newspapers singly or in bundles; but 25 (ii) does not include an employee of the paper who,

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incidentally to his main duties, carries or delivers papers.

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- (3) (a) A sole proprietor or a working member of a partnership who holds himself out or considers himself an independent contractor [and who is not contracting] for cosmetologist's services or barber's services as defined in 39-51-204(1)(1) must elect to be bound personally and individually by the provisions of compensation plan No. 1, 2, or 3, but he may apply to the division for an exemption from the Workers' Compensation Act for himself.
- 10 (b) The application must be made in accordance with
  11 the rules adopted by the division. The division may deny the
  12 application only if it determines that the applicant is not
  13 an independent contractor.
  - (c) When an application is approved by the division, it is conclusive as to the status of an independent contractor and precludes the applicant from obtaining benefits under this chapter.
  - (d) When an election of an exemption is approved by the division, the election remains effective and the independent contractor retains his status as an independent contractor until he notifies the division of any change in his status and provides a description of his present work status.
- 24 (e) If the division denies the application for
  25 exemption, the applicant may contest the denial by

- petitioning for review of the decision by an appeals referee in the manner provided for in 39-51-1109. An applicant dissatisfied with the decision of the appeals referee may appeal the decision in accordance with the procedure established in 39-51-2403 and 39-51-2404.
- (4) (a) A private corporation shall provide coverage for its officers and other employees under the provisions of compensation plan No. 1, 2, or 3. However, pursuant to such rules as the division promulgates and subject in all cases to approval by the division, an officer of a private corporation may elect not to be bound as an employee under this chapter by giving a written notice, on a form provided by the division, served in the following manner:
- 14 (i) if the employer has elected to be bound by the 15 provisions of compensation plan No. 1, by delivering the 16 notice to the board of directors of the employer and the 17 division; or
- 18 (ii) if the employer has elected to be bound by the 19 provisions of compensation plan No. 2 or 3, by delivering 20 the notice to the board of directors of the employer, the 21 division, and the insurer.
- 22 (b) If the employer changes plans or insurers, the 23 officer's previous election is not effective and the officer 24 shall again serve notice as provided if he elects not to be 25 bound.

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(c) The appointment or election of an employee as an officer of a corporation for the purpose of excluding the employee from coverage under this chapter does not entitle the officer to elect not to be bound as an employee under this chapter. In any case, the officer must sign the notice required by subsection (4)(a) under oath or affirmation, and he is subject to the penalties for false swearing under 45-7-202 if he falsifies the notice.

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- 9 (5) Each employer shall post a sign in the workplace 10 at the locations where notices to employees are normally posted, informing employees about the employer's current 11 12 provision of compensation insurance. A workplace is any 13 location where an employee performs any work-related act in 14 the course of employment, regardless of whether the location 15 is temporary or permanent, and includes the place of 16 business or property of a third person while the employer 17 has access to or control over such place of business or property for the purpose of carrying on his usual trade, 18 19 business, or occupation. The sign will be provided by the 20 division, distributed through insurers or directly by the 21 division, and posted by employers in accordance with rules 22 adopted by the division. An employer who purposely or 23 knowingly fails to post a sign as provided in this 24 subsection is subject to a \$50 fine for each citation."
- 25 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Extension of authority. Any

- l existing authority to make rules on the subject of the
- 2 provisions of [this act] is extended to the provisions of
- 3 [this act].
- 4 NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is
- 5 effective July 1, 1989.

-End-

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21	provide for the needs of members of his family who are
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9	compensation coverage is required is in many instances
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11	uncertainty of what constitutes family employment may result
12	in many employers being unintentionally uninsured, resulting
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15	THEREFORE, the Legislature of the State of Montana
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