

HOUSE BILL 72

Introduced by Bradley, et al.

1/05	Introduced
1/06	Referred to Appropriations
3/01	Hearing
3/17	Tabled in Committee

1 House BILL NO. 72
 2 INTRODUCED BY Bradley Mr. Samuel E. Manning
 3 BY REQUEST OF THE JOINT INTERIM SUBCOMMITTEE ON WELFARE
 4

5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT MANDATING THAT THE
 6 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES PERFORM
 7 QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEWS TO ENSURE THE INTEGRITY OF THE
 8 GENERAL RELIEF ASSISTANCE PROGRAM; APPROPRIATING FUNDS;
 9 AMENDING SECTION 53-3-112, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
 10 DATE."
 11

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

13 **Section 1.** Section 53-3-112, MCA, is amended to read:

14 "53-3-112. Fraud Quality assurance reviews -- fraud
 15 and recovery of overpayments. (1) The department shall
 16 conduct quality assurance reviews in counties with
 17 state-assumed welfare services to ensure the integrity of
 18 the general relief assistance program. Such reviews must
 19 include but are not limited to:

20 (a) review of case records to identify errors
 21 resulting in overpayments, underpayments, payments to
 22 ineligible persons, and improper denial or termination of
 23 assistance to persons eligible to receive general relief;

24 (b) verification of information used to determine the
 25 eligibility of individuals receiving general relief

1 assistance;

2 (c) home visits;

3 (d) investigation of possible fraud and abuse; and

4 (e) reviews to determine if the general relief
 5 assistance program is being administered in compliance with
 6 state laws and department rules and policies.

7 ~~††~~(2) The department shall deny general relief for a
 8 reasonable period of time to any household determined to
 9 have received any assistance by means of fraud.

10 ~~††~~(3) The department or its agent may recover or
 11 offset any amounts of general relief made available to a
 12 household which, because of fraud or mistake error, are
 13 above the amounts that should have been provided."

14 **Section 2. Appropriation.** There is appropriated from
 15 the general fund to the department of social and
 16 rehabilitation services for the biennium ending June 30,
 17 1991, the following sums of money to be used for the purpose
 18 of administering [this act]:

19	<u>FY 1990</u>	<u>FY 1991</u>
20	\$49,986	\$48,886

21 **Section 3. Extension of authority.** Any existing
 22 authority to make rules on the subject of the provisions of
 23 [this act] is extended to the provisions of [this act].

24 **Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective
 25 July 1, 1989.



-End-
-2-

INTRODUCED BILL
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