

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 49

Introduced by Elliott, et al.

4/13	Introduced
4/13	Referred to Human Services & Aging
4/14	Hearing
4/15	Committee Report--Bill Passed
4/17	2nd Reading Passed
4/17	3rd Reading Passed

Transmitted to Senate

4/18	Referred to Public Health, Welfare & Safety
4/19	Hearing Died in Committee

1 ~~HOUSE~~ JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 49
2 INTRODUCED BY Cliff Borden
3
4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN
6 INTERIM STUDY ON MEDICAID COST CONTAINMENT; AND REQUIRING A
7 REPORT OF THE FINDINGS OF THE STUDY TO THE 52ND LEGISLATURE.

8
9 WHEREAS, Medicaid is a joint state-federal program to
10 provide medical assistance to persons who are unable to pay
11 for medical care themselves; and

12 WHEREAS, Medicaid has become one of the largest, most
13 expensive programs administered by Montana state government,
14 with costs for the program totaling \$141.5 million in fiscal
15 year 1988; and

16 WHEREAS, the costs for Medicaid have risen 66% between
17 fiscal years 1983 and 1988, representing the single, fastest
18 growing item in the state budget; and

19 WHEREAS, Medicaid costs have been increasing at a rate
20 much greater than the increase in state revenues; and

21 WHEREAS, the projected increase in Medicaid costs may
22 exceed the total increase expected for state revenues in the
23 next biennium; and

24 WHEREAS, the state presently is caught in a triple bind
25 of rising governmental costs, declining or uncertain

1 revenues, and strong resistance to tax increases; and

2 WHEREAS, confronted by these problems, the state is
3 forced to either contain costs or to make major sacrifices
4 in welfare, education, and other public programs; and

5 WHEREAS, a wide variety of options is available to the
6 state for reducing or containing the cost of Medicaid, some
7 of which do not require restrictions on eligibility or
8 limitations on benefits; and

9 WHEREAS, these cost containment options have been
10 identified in studies completed in Montana and in other
11 states; and

12 WHEREAS, these cost containment options should be fully
13 explored to determine their potential for controlling
14 Medicaid expenditures in this state.

15
16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE
17 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

18 That the Legislature establish an appropriate interim
19 committee on Medicaid cost containment.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee study
21 options for reducing or containing Medicaid costs,
22 including:

23 (1) establishing a managed health care system or
24 preferred provider system for Medicaid;

25 (2) volume purchasing of needed goods and services;

- 1 (3) constraining Medicaid reimbursement levels;
- 2 (4) providing alternative, less costly forms of
- 3 medical care;
- 4 (5) instituting greater utilization controls;
- 5 (6) reducing the need for medical care by increasing
- 6 the availability of preventive services;
- 7 (7) improving administration and management of the
- 8 Medicaid program; and
- 9 (8) maximizing third-party reimbursements for Medicaid
- 10 services.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as part of its study, the
 12 committee undertake and complete a thorough examination of
 13 the Medicaid program in Montana, which should include:

- 14 (1) a review of the Medicaid program;
- 15 (2) a detailed analysis of program costs and
- 16 utilization by client/provider categories;
- 17 (3) an analysis of recent changes in program costs and
- 18 utilization across client/provider categories;
- 19 (4) an analysis of projected trends in Medicaid costs
- 20 and utilization of services; and
- 21 (5) an inventory of all existing Medicaid limitations,
- 22 reimbursement constraints, and utilization controls.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee report its
 24 findings and recommended options for legislative
 25 consideration to the 52nd Legislature and, if appropriate,

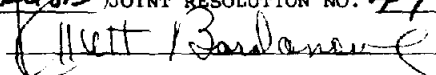
1 prepare legislation to implement these options.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Office of the
 3 Legislative Auditor, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal
 4 Analyst, and the Department of Social and Rehabilitation
 5 Services assist and cooperate with the committee and the
 6 Legislative Council in conducting the study called for by
 7 this resolution.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMM. ON
HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING~~HOUSE~~ JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 49

INTRODUCED BY



A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY ON MEDICAID COST CONTAINMENT; AND REQUIRING A REPORT OF THE FINDINGS OF THE STUDY TO THE 52ND LEGISLATURE.

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WHEREAS, Medicaid costs have been increasing at a rate much greater than the increase in state revenues; and

WHEREAS, the projected increase in Medicaid costs may exceed the total increase expected for state revenues in the next biennium; and

WHEREAS, the state presently is caught in a triple bind of rising governmental costs, declining or uncertain

revenues, and strong resistance to tax increases; and

WHEREAS, confronted by these problems, the state is forced to either contain costs or to make major sacrifices in welfare, education, and other public programs; and

WHEREAS, a wide variety of options is available to the state for reducing or containing the cost of Medicaid, some of which do not require restrictions on eligibility or limitations on benefits; and

WHEREAS, these cost containment options have been identified in studies completed in Montana and in other states; and

WHEREAS, these cost containment options should be fully explored to determine their potential for controlling Medicaid expenditures in this state.

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

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INTRODUCED BY Cliff B. Anderson

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