

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 5

Introduced by Bohlinger

12/04 Introduced
12/04 Referred to Human Services & Aging
12/04 First Reading
12/08 Hearing
12/09 Committee Report--Bill Passed
12/10 2nd Reading Passed
12/10 3rd Reading Passed

Transmitted to Senate

12/11 First Reading
12/11 Referred to Finance & Claims
12/14 Hearing
12/14 Committee Report-Bill Concurred
12/15 2nd Reading Concurred
12/15 3rd Reading Concurred

Returned to House

12/16 Signed by Speaker
12/18 Signed by President
12/18 Filed with Secretary of State

1 House JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5
2 INTRODUCED BY John C. Dahlquist
3
4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE
6 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES TO STUDY
7 THE FEASIBILITY OF OPERATING A PROGRAM TO PREPARE RECIPIENTS
8 OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FOR EMPLOYMENT IN STATE-FUNDED PROGRAMS
9 THAT PROVIDE SERVICES TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND TO
10 REPORT ITS FINDINGS TO THE 54TH LEGISLATURE.
11

12 WHEREAS, a person with developmental disabilities should
13 be given every opportunity to live in the least restrictive
14 setting possible while receiving appropriate services from
15 personnel who have the training and skills necessary to
16 address each disabled individual's unique needs; and

17 WHEREAS, there may be individuals in the group of
18 low-income people receiving public assistance benefits who
19 would be capable of employment in programs that provide
20 services to Montanans with developmental disabilities; and

21 WHEREAS, Michigan has developed a small pilot program of
22 training, support, and supervision that has assisted
23 low-income families and families on public assistance in
24 becoming foster families for a small number of children with
25 developmental disabilities, and that program should be

1 studied for its advantages and disadvantages; and

2 WHEREAS, there may be current programs within the
3 Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services that would
4 be able to accomplish similar objectives through enabling
5 legislation or funding; and

6 WHEREAS, there may be cost savings to the state by
7 assisting the transition of individuals from public
8 assistance to employment and independence; and

9 WHEREAS, Montana's goal of appropriate care for persons
10 with developmental disabilities and meaningful employment
11 for individuals receiving public assistance may be addressed
12 through a complementary program involving both populations.
13

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

16 That the Department of Social and Rehabilitation
17 Services conduct a study of the Michigan Living in Family
18 Environments (L.I.F.E.) Program in order to determine if a
19 similar program in Montana would be feasible and in the best
20 interest of people with developmental disabilities and
21 individuals receiving public assistance and if a similar
22 program would be cost-effective for the State of Montana.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study include
24 alternatives to assist current programs in achieving the
25 same goals as those of the L.I.F.E. program, tailored to use

1 the resources available in Montana and to meet the needs of
2 our citizens with developmental disabilities.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Social
4 and Rehabilitation Services study the public assistance
5 recipient population and any other appropriate population
6 that could be suitably trained and supported in meeting the
7 needs of persons with developmental disabilities, while
8 assisting the recipient of public assistance in achieving
9 employment and a greater level of independence and
10 functionality in society through training, support,
11 financial compensation, and medical assistance.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the written findings and
13 recommendations; the identification of possible program
14 options; the cost-effectiveness and potential savings, if
15 any; and the draft legislation necessary to implement the
16 recommendations be presented to the 54th Legislature on or
17 before November 15, 1994.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMM. ON
HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING

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