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INTRODUCED BY Cobb House BILL NO. 474

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER TRAINING;  
AND AMENDING SECTION 41-5-702, MCA."

STATEMENT OF INTENT

Rules adopted under [section 1] should establish standards, procedures, and subject and content requirements for training programs and courses. The rules should also establish attendance, examination, and certification requirements.

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

**NEW SECTION. Section 1. Juvenile probation officer training.** (1) The board of crime control may conduct a 40-hour juvenile probation officer basic training program and other training programs and courses for juvenile probation officers. A 40-hour juvenile probation officer basic training program and other training programs and courses for juvenile probation officers may be offered by another public agency or by a private entity if the program or course is approved by the board. If funding is available, the board shall conduct a 40-hour basic training program once a year.

(2) A juvenile probation officer who successfully completes the 40-hour basic training program or another program or course must be issued a certificate by the board.

(3) A juvenile probation officer is entitled to the officer's salary while attending a program or training course and must be paid, by the district court, expenses as provided in 2-18-501. The court shall also pay any program or course registration fee.

(4) The board may adopt rules to implement this section.

**Section 2.** Section 41-5-702, MCA, is amended to read:

**"41-5-702. Qualifications of probation officers.** (1) Any person appointed as a chief probation officer must have the following qualifications:

(a) a master's degree in the behavioral sciences;

1           (b) a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in the behavioral sciences and at  
2 least 1 year's experience in work of a nature related to the duties of a probation officer as set forth in  
3 41-5-703; or

4           (c) a bachelor's degree in any field and at least 3 years' experience in work related to the duties  
5 of a probation officer as set forth in 41-5-703.

6           (2) The judge may appoint any reputable person as a probation officer who has had experience in  
7 work of a nature related to the duties of a chief probation officer, provided preference ~~shall~~ must be given  
8 to persons with the qualifications set forth in subsection (1).

9           (3) Each person appointed as a chief probation officer or probation officer under this section or as  
10 a deputy probation officer under 41-5-705 must, ~~through a source approved by his employer,~~ obtain 16  
11 hours a year of training in subjects relating to the powers and duties of probation officers in a program or  
12 course offered or approved by the board of crime control under [section 1]."

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-END-

STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Fiscal Note for HB0474, as introduced

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

A bill providing for juvenile probation officer training.

ASSUMPTIONS:


1. It is assumed that the training courses prescribed in the bill will be conducted by the Department of Justice rather than the Board of Crime Control. It is also assumed that the Department of Justice Law Enforcement Academy will incur minimal additional expenses to conduct the courses.
2. The Board of Crime Control will adopt and publish administrative rules as necessary.
3. The Board of Crime Control will certify approved training courses for juvenile probation officers.
4. The Board of Crime Control will certify training records for individual juvenile probation officers.
5. The costs to the Board of Crime Control for performing the services in assumptions #1-4 will be absorbed within the present law base for the Crime Control Division.
6. Juvenile probation officers are not employees of the Department of Corrections and Human Services and there is no fiscal impact on that department.
7. The Department of Family Services employs juvenile parole officers but not juvenile probation officers. Therefore, there is no fiscal impact on that department.

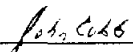
FISCAL IMPACT:

No material fiscal impact on state agencies.

EFFECT ON COUNTY OR OTHER LOCAL REVENUES OR EXPENDITURES:

The bill requires any juvenile probation officer program or course registration fee, and the officer's salary during attendance, to be paid by the county district court. This will have some impact on county government expenditures.

  
DAVE LEWIS, BUDGET DIRECTOR      DATE  
Office of Budget and Program Planning

  
JOHN COBB, PRIMARY SPONSOR      DATE

Fiscal Note for HB0474, as introduced

**HB 474**

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