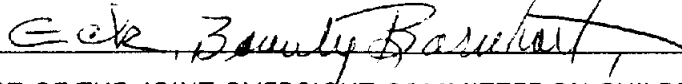


SENATE BILL NO. 102

INTRODUCED BY



BY REQUEST OF THE JOINT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT MAKING PERMANENT THE JOINT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES; APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR USE BY THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

WHEREAS, the Joint Oversight Committee on Children and Families, established by Chapter 301, Laws of 1993 (House Bill No. 19), was recommended as a permanent study committee by the Joint Interim Subcommittee on Children and Families at the conclusion of the 1991-92 interim; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Oversight Committee on Children and Families was assigned many of the issues that are also designated as appropriate, ongoing study areas within this reauthorization legislation; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Oversight Committee on Children and Families concluded its 1993-94 interim study assignments by recommending numerous policy and programmatic changes that are presented in the Committee's final report to the 54th Legislature.

THEREFORE, the Legislature of the State of Montana finds it is appropriate to make permanent a Joint Oversight Committee on Children and Families to continue monitoring the implementation of legislative recommendations and to continue further study of emerging issues related to programs for children and families in Montana.

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Legislative oversight committee -- appointment -- staff assistance.

(1)(a) There is a joint oversight committee on children and families. The oversight committee is composed of eight members who are appointed as follows:

(i) four members of the house of representatives, not more than two of whom may be from one political party, appointed by the speaker; and

(ii) four members of the senate, not more than two of whom may be from one political party,

1 appointed by the committee on committees.

2 (b) The members appointed under subsection (1)(a) must include representatives from the house
3 appropriations subcommittee on human services and aging and the senate finance and claims subcommittee
4 on human services and aging.

5 (2) In case of a vacancy, a replacement must be selected in the manner of the original appointment.

6 (3) Members are entitled to salary and expenses as provided in 5-2-302.

7 (4) The oversight committee may request staff assistance from the legislative council, which
8 assistance may be provided within limits established by the legislative council, given other priorities and
9 responsibilities.

10 (5) Each state agency providing services or funding for a program or service for children and
11 families shall provide assistance and information upon request of the oversight committee.

12

13 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Duties of oversight committee.** The oversight committee shall:

14 (1) examine public and private programs, services, and planning for children and families for the
15 purpose of identifying duplications, inefficiencies, and any unmet needs within those programs, services,
16 and plans;

17 (2) review federal, state, local, and private funds available to state and local jurisdictions for
18 programs and services for children and families and consider feasible methods of refinancing those
19 resources to maximize overall funding for existing and new programs;

20 (3) monitor interagency coordination of programs and services for children and families and study
21 ways to improve coordination and collaboration among public and private human service providers at all
22 levels of government in Montana;

23 (4) study the issues surrounding teenage parents and their families, including problems related to
24 employment, education, parenting skills, and public assistance;

25 (5) monitor implementation of state and national welfare reforms related to at-risk families, child
26 care, teenage parents, and other human service concerns;

27 (6) continue to study issues related to adult protective services; and

28 (7) report the results of its study in writing to each regular session of the legislature. The oversight
29 committee shall also provide copies of its report to the governor and appropriate state agencies.

30

1 **NEW SECTION.** **Section 3. Appropriation.** There is appropriated \$10,000 from the general fund
2 to the legislative council for the biennium ending June 30, 1997, to support the activities of the joint
3 oversight committee on children and families made permanent in [section 1].
4

5 **NEW SECTION.** **Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 1995.
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SENATE BILL NO. 102
INTRODUCED BY ECK, BARNHART
BY REQUEST OF THE JOINT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT MAKING PERMANENT THE JOINT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES; APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR USE BY THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

SENATE BILL NO. 102 WAS WITHDRAWN

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