

HOUSE BILL NO. 494

INTRODUCED BY J. MANGAN

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO BE USED AS STATE MATCHING FUNDS FOR CERTAIN FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS FOR CHILD-CARE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health and Human Services is statutorily responsible for planning, implementing, and coordinating programs under the Montana Child Care Act; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health and Human Services is statutorily required, under section 52-2-704, MCA, to carry out a variety of activities, including:

- (1) assessing child-care needs and resources within the state;
- (2) developing a state child-care plan;
- (3) coordinating child-care programs administered by all state agencies;
- (4) issuing licenses to persons to receive children into a day-care center on a regular basis; and
- (5) prescribing the conditions and publishing minimum standards upon which licenses and registration certificates are issued; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health and Human Services is statutorily authorized, also under section 52-2-704, MCA, to perform a variety of other activities that complement the Department's statutory duties regarding child-care services, including:

- (1) entering into interagency agreements to administer and coordinate child-care programs;
- (2) accepting any federal funds made available for the improvement or promotion of child-care services within the state; and
- (3) administering any state and federal funds that may be appropriated for the purposes of Title 52, chapter 2, part 7, MCA; and

WHEREAS, federal funds for certain child-care services are available to the Department of Public Health and Human Services if state matching funds are appropriated.

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



1 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the general fund to the
2 department of public health and human services for the biennium beginning July 1, 2001, \$1.7 million.
3 The appropriation may be used only as state matching funds for federal child-care and development block
4 grant funds available for the purposes described in 52-2-704.

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6 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2001.

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