

SENATE BILL NO. 249

INTRODUCED BY COBB

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A STATEWIDE CONTINUUM OF CARE IN THE AREAS OF PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, AND TREATMENT FOR CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY AND CO-OCCURRING DISORDERS IN PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR A CONTINGENT COORDINATION WITH THE OFFICE OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE."

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

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Prevention and treatment -- coordination required between departments of public health and human services and corrections.** (1) The legislature finds that there are limited prevention, intervention, and treatment funds available for treatment of persons with chemical dependency and co-occurring disorders and that more coordination is required between the department, which administers the federal block grant, medicaid, and alcohol tax money for chemical dependency programs, the Montana chemical dependency center, and state and federally funded public mental health services, and the department of corrections, which administers chemical dependency and mental health treatment in state prisons and in contracts with private prisons, regional correctional facilities, prerelease programs, YOUTH CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES, and other specialized treatment facilities. The legislature finds that it is in the best interest of Montana to develop a single continuum of care that takes into account the needs of all Montanans both in the general public and in correctional programs. The legislature also finds that many persons suffer from chemical dependency and mental illness and that any continuum of care must provide treatment for those persons with co-occurring disorders.

(2) The department, in conjunction with the department of corrections, shall [report to and coordinate with the office of substance abuse prevention and treatment to]:

~~———(a) conduct an initial needs assessment by county or region to develop a baseline of the treatment needs in the state for the development of a continuum of care, benchmarks, and evaluation and outcome measures;~~



1 ~~———(b) develop a quality management plan based on the community needs assessment to meet prevention,~~
 2 ~~intervention, and treatment needs, including policy and procedures, certification instruments for professionals,~~
 3 ~~quality management tools for compliance and quality assurance, and implementation of best practices and~~
 4 ~~evidence-based services for positive outcomes;~~

5 ~~———(c) develop a statewide data management system to monitor all chemical dependency prevention,~~
 6 ~~intervention, and treatment programs and to provide reporting of measurable outcomes for federal and state~~
 7 ~~requirements, contract management, guidance in funding decisions, and information needed to secure additional~~
 8 ~~funding;~~

9 ~~———(d) provide for technical assistance to and professional development of prevention, intervention, and~~
 10 ~~treatment professionals in order to develop an outcome-based system that coordinates services of professionals~~
 11 ~~in the areas of chemical dependency, mental health, corrections, and public health; and~~

12 ~~———(e) develop a continuum of care strategic plan for prevention, intervention, detoxification, treatment,~~
 13 ~~other inpatient, and correctional services and facilities for special populations, for recovery, and for transitional~~
 14 ~~services to address the areas of need identified in the needs assessment.~~

15 (3) The department of corrections, in conjunction with the department, shall [report to and coordinate
 16 with the office of substance abuse prevention and treatment to] adopt:

17 (a) correctional treatment standards; and

18 (b) procedures to assist the transition of offenders from prisons and secure facilities into community
 19 substance abuse programs.

20 (4) The department and the department of corrections shall report jointly and regularly to the appropriate
 21 legislative interim committees ~~prior to making any commitment of funds, including signing a contract, for a~~
 22 ~~substance abuse or mental health prevention, intervention, or treatment program and shall report on how the~~
 23 ~~proposed program implements the continuum of care strategic plan, fulfills the results of the needs assessment,~~
 24 ~~and includes plans for ongoing evaluation and ON any recommendations for improving the development of~~
 25 ~~interagency cooperation.~~

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 27 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
 28 integral part of Title 53, chapter 24, and the provisions of Title 53, chapter 24, apply to [section 1].

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 30 **COORDINATION SECTION. Section 3. Coordination instruction.** (1) If House Bill No. 31 and [this

1 act] are both passed and approved, [section 1(4) of this act] must read:

2 "(4) (a) The department and the department of corrections shall report to the office of substance abuse
3 prevention and treatment prior to making any commitment of funds, including signing a contract, for a chemical
4 dependency or mental health prevention, intervention, or treatment program and shall report on how the
5 proposed program implements the continuum of care strategic plan, fulfills the results of the needs assessment,
6 and includes plans for ongoing evaluation and ON any recommendations for improving the development of
7 interagency cooperation. The department report to the office of substance abuse prevention and treatment must
8 demonstrate that the proposal or contract supports a statewide continuum of care.

9 (b) The office of substance abuse prevention and treatment, the department, and the department of
10 corrections shall report jointly and regularly to the appropriate legislative interim committees on the progress of
11 the statewide strategic plan and continuum of care."

12 (2) If House Bill No. 31 is not approved, the bracketed language in [section 1 of this act] is void.

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14 NEW SECTION. Section 4. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2005.

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16 NEW SECTION. SECTION 5. TERMINATION DATE. [SECTION 1] TERMINATES JUNE 30, 2007.

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