

SENATE BILL NO. 275

INTRODUCED BY SCHMIDT, BECKER, COBB, COONEY, GEBHARDT, ROBERTS

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT RELATING TO THE VOLUNTARY GENETICS PROGRAM; CHANGING THE NAME OF THE PROGRAM TO THE GENETICS PROGRAM; TEMPORARILY INCREASING THE GENETICS PROGRAM FEE; CREATING A STATE SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR DEPOSIT OF THE FEE; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 33-2-712 AND 50-19-211, MCA."

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

Section 1. Section 33-2-712, MCA, is amended to read:

"33-2-712. Genetics program fee. (1) Except as provided in 33-2-713, for each Montana resident insured under any individual or group disability or health insurance policy on February 1 of each year, the insurer or health service corporation issuing the policy, and the state group health plan provided for in Title 2, chapter 18, part 8, shall pay ~~70 cents~~ \$1 ~~THE FEE PROVIDED FOR IN SUBSECTION (2)~~ to the commissioner. The fee must be paid on or before March 1 of each year and be deposited in ~~the general~~ AN ACCOUNT IN THE STATE SPECIAL REVENUE fund PROVIDED FOR IN [SECTION 3]. ~~The purpose of the fee is may be used only to fund the voluntary~~ statewide genetics program established in 50-19-211.

(2) (A) FROM [THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ACT] THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007, THE FEE IS \$1.

(B) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2007, THE FEE IS 70 CENTS."

Section 2. Section 50-19-211, MCA, is amended to read:

"50-19-211. Voluntary STATEWIDE genetics program established. (1) ~~A combined, comprehensive;~~ voluntary statewide genetics program is established in the department to offer testing, counseling, and education to parents and prospective parents. The program includes; but is not limited to; the following services:

~~(1)(a)~~ (a) followup programs for newborn testing, with emphasis on the counseling and education of women at risk for maternal phenylketonuria;

~~(2)(b)~~ (b) comprehensive clinical and SELF-SUPPORTING laboratory genetic services, including but not limited to cytogenetics, DNA, and special chemistry, to all areas of the state and all segments of the population;

~~(3)(c)~~ (c) development of counseling and testing programs for the diagnosis and management of genetic

1 conditions and metabolic disorders; and

2 ~~(4)(d)~~ development and expansion of educational programs for physicians, allied health professionals,
3 and the public with respect to:

4 ~~(a)(i)~~ the nature of genetic processes;

5 ~~(b)(ii)~~ the inheritance patterns of genetic conditions; and

6 ~~(c)(iii)~~ the means, methods, and facilities available to diagnose, counsel, and treat genetic conditions
7 and metabolic disorders.

8 (2) When the department contracts for genetics services UNDER THIS SECTION, it shall PREFERABLY
9 contract with a single entity that is able to provide the combined, comprehensive program. THE DEPARTMENT AND
10 THE CONTRACTOR SHALL ADMINISTER THE CONTRACT IN THE MOST COST-EFFECTIVE MEANS PRACTICABLE."

11
12 NEW SECTION. SECTION 3. STATE SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT. THERE IS AN ACCOUNT IN THE STATE
13 SPECIAL REVENUE FUND TO THE CREDIT OF THE DEPARTMENT TO BE USED SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSES PROVIDED IN
14 50-19-211.

15
16 NEW SECTION. SECTION 4. CODIFICATION INSTRUCTION. [SECTION 3] IS INTENDED TO BE CODIFIED AS AN
17 INTEGRAL PART OF TITLE 50, CHAPTER 19, PART 2, AND THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 50, CHAPTER 19, PART 2, APPLY TO
18 [SECTION 3].

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