

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 638

2 INTRODUCED BY B. BERGREN

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT APPROPRIATING MONEY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
5 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO FUND CONTRACEPTIVE SERVICES; AND PROVIDING AN
6 EFFECTIVE DATE."

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8 WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health and Human Services contracts with 15 family planning
9 delegate agencies in 29 locations throughout Montana offering comprehensive family planning, medical,
10 counseling, and education services, and these clinics rely on federal Title X funding, which is devoted to the
11 provision of family planning and reproductive health care; and

12 WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2006, 28,309 men and women were served by Title X clinics in Montana; and

13 WHEREAS, 70% of these clients were at or below 150% of the poverty level, and only 5% of Montana's
14 family planning clinics are served by Medicaid; and

15 WHEREAS, Montana's Title X clinics face many challenges in providing quality, comprehensive
16 reproductive health care to low-income men and women, including rising costs of contraceptives, laboratory tests,
17 and health care personnel; and

18 WHEREAS, even with a reduced formulary of contraceptive methods, local clinics still struggle with an
19 average 57% increase in costs for contraception, causing some clinics to spend their year's budget for
20 contraceptives in 3 months and other clinics to reduce their clinic hours; and

21 WHEREAS, access to a broad choice of contraceptive methods is important to a woman's successful
22 practice of contraception, increasing the woman's ability to use the method correctly and successfully; and

23 WHEREAS, access to affordable contraceptive services is essential to family planning, which saves
24 taxpayer dollars, reduces the need for abortions, and improves pregnancy outcomes by reducing low birthweight
25 babies, infant mortality, and maternal health problems.

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

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29 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Appropriation.** There is appropriated \$600,000 each fiscal year from the
30 general fund to the department of public health and human services to fund contraceptive services for the

1 biennium ending June 30, 2009.

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3 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2007.

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