

SENATE BILL NO. 346  
INTRODUCED BY B. KEENAN

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FOR THE MULTIAGENCY CHILDREN'S SYSTEM OF CARE INITIATIVE; REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO APPLY FOR CERTAIN GRANTS; REQUIRING DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL CHILDREN'S SYSTEM OF CARE PILOT PROJECTS; CREATING AN ACCOUNT IN THE STATE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE MULTIAGENCY CHILDREN'S SYSTEM OF CARE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE."

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

**NEW SECTION. Section 1. Requirement to apply for grant.** (1) The department of public health and human services shall apply for any U.S. department of health and human services substance abuse and mental health services administration grant that becomes available over the 2004 and 2005 biennium that is a child mental health initiative or a comprehensive community mental health services program for children and their families.

(2) The legislature's goals in pursuing a grant for the multiagency children's system of care initiative are to:

(a) provide for and encourage the development of a stable system of care for children with serious emotional disturbance and multiagency service needs;

(b) build state and community capacity to support the appropriate care and treatment of children with serious emotional disturbance and multiagency service needs in the least restrictive setting and most appropriate setting;

(c) develop and provide an in-state quality array of mental health services and supports to serve children with serious emotional disturbance and multiagency service needs within their home, community, region, and state whenever possible;

(d) coordinate and integrate planning and delivery of services across child-serving systems at the state and local levels, including mental health, chemical dependency, developmental disability, education, child welfare, and juvenile justice;

(e) promote the creation of case management teams responsible for developing and implementing

individualized, unified plans of care and treatment for each child with serious emotional disturbance and multiagency service needs;

(f) develop and deliver culturally competent and appropriate services for Indian, Hispanic, and other minority children represented in the state;

(g) promote full participation of the family and providers as partners in the planning and delivery of services for a child; and

(h) contain costs and reduce the use of high-cost, highly restrictive, out-of-home placements.

**NEW SECTION. Section 2. Local children's system of care pilot projects -- department responsibilities -- planning committee responsibilities -- evaluation.** (1) The department shall:

(a) assist the children's system of care planning committee, as established in [section 3 of the second reading version of Senate Bill No. 94], to establish local children's system of care pilot projects in targeted communities; and

(b) provide a quarterly report to the children, families, health, and human services interim committee on the status of the pilot projects.

(2) The planning committee shall:

(a) establish a request for proposals process and select targeted communities to implement the local children's system of care pilot projects; and

(b) develop criteria to evaluate proposals for selecting targeted communities.

(3) At a minimum, the pilot project must:

(a) reflect the underlying values and principles of the children's system of care philosophy;

(b) emphasize services and unified planning processes that are child-centered, focused on the family, developmentally appropriate, culturally competent, and integrated;

(c) focus on high-risk children with multiagency service needs;

(d) identify the parameters of the geographic area that compose the targeted community;

(e) demonstrate the capacity of the community to build a local interagency team with active participation from representatives of child-serving agencies who are authorized to commit resources and make decisions on behalf of the agency represented;

(f) address how the local interagency team will create a pool of appropriated funding and ensure that accepted accounting practices and principles are used to account for revenue and incurred expenditures;

(g) demonstrate the capacity of the community to provide for full involvement of families and providers

as partners in the planning and delivery process; and

(h) specify outcome indicators and measures that could be used in the evaluation of the effectiveness of the pilot project.

(4) The planning committee and the targeted communities selected for pilot projects shall collaborate to develop and share technical assistance, training resources, and integrated funding strategies to assist in the development of local systems of care, flexible funding, unified care planning, and integrated service delivery.

(5) (a) The planning committee and the targeted communities selected for pilot projects shall collaborate to develop a system to evaluate the success of the pilot projects in achieving outcome goals.

(b) The evaluation system must include information on composite care and treatment expenses, cost avoidance, and net savings that result from participation in the initiative.

(c) The targeted community is responsible for gathering and reporting baseline outcome data to the planning committee.

**NEW SECTION. Section 3. State special revenue account.** (1) There is a multiagency children's system of care initiative account in the state special revenue fund provided for in 17-2-102.

(2) All money collected under subsection (3) must be deposited in the account.

(3) Each agency mandated to participate in the children's system of care planning committee, as established in [section 3 of the second reading version of Senate Bill No. 94], shall transfer up to \$4,000 to the multiagency children's system of care initiative account for the purposes of:

(a) any required local match for a successful grant as provided for in [section 1]; and

(b) establishing a flexible funding pool that can be accessed and used at the local level to implement multiagency children's system of care pilot projects as provided in [section 2].

**NEW SECTION. Section 4. Codification instruction.** [Sections 2 and 3] are intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 52, chapter 2, part 3, and the provisions of Title 52, chapter 2, part 3, apply to [sections 2 and 3].

**NEW SECTION. Section 5. Coordination instruction.** If Senate Bill No. 94 is not passed and approved, then [this act] is void.

**NEW SECTION. Section 6. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2003.

NEW SECTION. **Section 7. Termination.** [Section 1] terminates June 30, 2005.

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