

1 _____ BILL NO. _____

2 INTRODUCED BY _____
3 (Primary Sponsor)

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REPEALING THE OBLIGATION OF ADULT CHILDREN TO
5 SUPPORT INDIGENT PARENTS; AMENDING SECTION 53-3-116, MCA; AND REPEALING SECTIONS 40-6-
6 214, 40-6-301, 40-6-302, AND 40-6-303, MCA."

7
8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

9
10 **Section 1.** Section 53-3-116, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"53-3-116. Indigent assistance -- optional county program.** (1) A county may provide a program of
12 indigent assistance that it determines necessary. The program may include assistance for food, clothing,
13 shelter, transportation, and medical assistance for individuals not eligible for state or federal programs providing
14 similar assistance. A county may provide for the burial, entombment, or cremation of indigents. The indigent
15 assistance program of the county includes:

- 16 (a) job search, job training, work-for-assistance, and employment programs; and
- 17 (b) health care, preventive care, and wellness programs as determined by the county commissioners.

18 (2) A county may establish the criteria for determining eligibility for assistance, including but not
19 limited to residency requirements, limits on income and resources, and the amount, scope, and duration of
20 assistance.

21 (3) A county may deny assistance for a reasonable period if a person has voluntarily left employment
22 without good cause or is discharged due to misconduct.

23 (4) The program may be funded with money derived from a county mill levy as authorized by law.

24 (5) A person is indigent for purposes of this subsection if the value of all income and resources
25 available to pay for that person's burial, entombment, or cremation at the time of death is less than the
26 negotiated amount due the funeral home or mortician for an indigent burial. Available income and resources
27 may be determined by the county.

28 ~~(6) A county may seek reimbursement under 40-6-303, if applicable, for costs paid under this section.~~

