

## HOUSE BILL NO. 416

INTRODUCED BY D. LENZ

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SUPERVISORS IN THE CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES SYSTEM; AMENDING SECTION 52-2-111, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY DATE."

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

**Section 1.** Section 52-2-111, MCA, is amended to read:

**"52-2-111. Administrative duties of department.** (1) Subject to the authority and regulations of the department and in cooperation with the federal government, the department shall:

~~(1)(a)~~ adopt rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this part; and

~~(2)(b)~~ administer or supervise all child welfare services of the state.

(2) The department division responsible for administering child welfare services shall require a master's degree in social work for employees hired as district supervisors or supervisors of field staff."

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Transition.** To implement the provisions of [this act], the department shall:

(1) allow division employees who are in supervisory positions on [the effective date of this act] 4 years to obtain a master's degree in social work if the employee does not have the degree; and

(2) allow department employees who are hired to fill a supervisory position 2 years from the date of hire to obtain a master's degree in social work if the employee does not have the degree.

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2021.

NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Applicability.** [Section 1] applies to individuals hired for supervisory positions on or after July 1, 2021.

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