Amendment - 1st Reading-white - Requested by: Alice Buckley - (H) Human Services

- 2023

68th Legislature 2023 Drafter: Milly Allen, 406-444-9280 HB0879.001.001

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 879
2	INTRODUCED BY L. SHELDON-GALLOWAY
3	
4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A POST-ABORTION POSTPREGNANCY
5	COUNSELING PROGRAM; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION;
6	AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."
7	
8	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
9	
10	NEW SECTION. Section 1. Post-abortion Postpregnancy counseling rulemaking authority
11	confidentiality. (1) The department shall establish a program to pay for counseling for women who are
12	experiencing trauma related to an abortion pregnancy or pregnancy outcomes.
13	(2) The department shall adopt rules that include but are not limited to: eligibility requirements for
14	receiving assistance under the program.
15	(a) the eligibility requirements for receiving assistance under the program;
16	(b) the application process for obtaining assistance; and
17	(b) the types and duration of counseling to be covered under the program.
18	(3) The eligibility criteria may not include limits on an applicant's income or the amount of time that
19	has elapsed since an abortion was performed the pregnancy concluded.
20	(4) The department may not require an applicant to divulge:
21	(a) the duration or outcome of the pregnancy;
22	(b) the name or location of the applicant's chosen mental health professional; or
23	(c) the manner in which the pregnancy concluded.
24	(4)(5) The department shall maintain the confidentiality of applicants for assistance under the
25	program.
26	(5)(6) The department shall include in the report required under 50-20-110 statistical data on the
27	number of women receiving assistance under the program and the amount of money spent for counseling
28	services.



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2	NEW SECTION. Section 2. Appropriation. (1) There is appropriated \$250,000 from the general fund
3	to the department of public health and human services in each year of the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, to
4	pay for post-abortion postpregnancy counseling as provided in [section 1].
5	(2) The legislature intends that the appropriation in this section be considered part of the ongoing
6	base for the next legislative session.
7	
8	NEW SECTION. Section 3. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
9	integral part of Title 50, chapter 20, part 1, and the provisions of Title 50, chapter 20, part 1, apply to [section 1]
10	
11	NEW SECTION. Section 4. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2023.
12	- END -

