

1 SENATE BILL NO. 182  
2 INTRODUCED BY D. LENZ

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CREATING AN INTERIM TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE  
5 DEPENDENCY AND NEGLECT COURT SYSTEM; SPECIFYING MEMBERS AND DUTIES; PROVIDING  
6 FOR CONTINGENT VOIDNESS; ESTABLISHING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING AN  
7 APPROPRIATION; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE EFFECTIVE DATES AND A  
8 TERMINATION DATE."

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

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12 NEW SECTION. Section 1. Task force on dependency and neglect court system. (1) There is a  
13 task force on dependency and neglect court systems.

14 (2) The task force consists of ~~11~~12 members appointed as follows:

15 (a) two members of the house of representatives, one of whom must be appointed by the speaker  
16 of the house of representatives and one of whom must be appointed by the minority leader of the house of  
17 representatives;

18 (b) two members of the senate, one of whom must be appointed by the president of the senate  
19 and one of whom must be appointed by the minority leader of the senate;

20 (c) one district court judge appointed by the chief justice of the supreme court; and

21 (d) ~~six~~SEVEN members appointed by the governor, none of whom may be a currently serving  
22 legislator, including:

23 (i) a county attorney OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE;

24 (ii) a law enforcement officer;

25 (iii) a representative from the governor's office;

26 (iv) a tribal member with experience relating to the Indian Child Welfare Act;

27 (v) a member of the public having experience with the dependency and neglect court system; ~~and~~

28 (vi) a representative of the office of state public defender; AND

1 recommendations and prepare draft legislation whenever appropriate. The task force shall submit the final  
2 report to the governor, the chief justice of the supreme court, and the 69th legislature.

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4 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Appropriation.** The following money is appropriated from the general  
5 fund to the legislative services division for the purposes established in [sections 1 and 2]:

6	Fiscal year 2024	\$67,812
7	Fiscal year 2025	\$13,219

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9 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Contingent voidness.** (1) Pursuant to Joint Rule 40-65, if [this act] does  
10 not include an appropriation prior to being transmitted to the governor, then [this act] is void.

11 (2) If the appropriation is vetoed, then [this act] is void.

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13 **NEW SECTION. Section 5. Effective ~~date~~ dates.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), [This this  
14 act] is effective on passage and approval.

15 (2) [Section 3] is effective July 1, 2023.

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17 **NEW SECTION. Section 6. Termination.** [This act] terminates June 30, 2025.

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