

1 SENATE BILL NO. 282
 2 INTRODUCED BY D. LENZ
 3
 4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING LAWS RELATED TO PLANNING AND SERVICE
 5 AREAS FOR SERVICES TO OLDER MONTANANS; ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE
 6 PLANNING AND SERVICE AREAS; PROVIDING FOR TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP AND DUTIES;
 7 REQUIRING REVIEW AND POSSIBLE REDESIGNATION OF PLANNING AND SERVICE AREAS BY JULY 1,
 8 2027; ESTABLISHING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION; AMENDING
 9 SECTION 52-3-405, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE."

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

12
13 NEW SECTION. Section 1. Task force on planning and service areas. (1) There is a task force on
14 planning and service areas to evaluate the current designated planning and service areas and make
15 recommendations for revising the boundaries of the areas to better serve older Montanans.

16 (2) The task force consists of ~~42~~ 15 members appointed as follows:

17 (a) two members of the Montana senate appointed by the committee on committees, one from the
18 majority party and one from the minority party;

19 (b) two members of the Montana house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house,
20 one from the majority party and one from the minority party; and

21 (c) additional members appointed by the director of the department or the director's designee to
22 represent:

23 (i) ~~two~~ FOUR area agencies on aging, one with a service area that ~~includes~~ PRIMARILY SERVES
24 urban areas, and one PRIMARILY serving only rural communities, ONE FROM A SERVICE AREA WEST OF THE
25 CONTINENTAL DIVIDE, AND ONE FROM A SERVICE AREA EAST OF THE CONTINENTAL DIVIDE;

26 (ii) two senior centers, one urban and one rural;

27 (iii) recipients of aging services;

28 (iv) providers of aging services; ~~and~~

1 tribal governments.

2 ~~(5)~~(4) No later than July 1, 2025, the department shall prepare a plan for reviewing the requirements
3 for designated planning and service areas, taking into account recommendations from the task force on
4 planning and service areas provided for in [section 1].

5 ~~(6)~~(5) The review must analyze the population trends of older adults in Montana, focusing on
6 individuals who:

7 (a) are living in designated rural and frontier areas; or

8 (b) are in greatest economic and social need, with particular attention to:

9 (i) low-income and low-income minority individuals;

10 (ii) individuals with limited English speaking ability;

11 (iii) individuals with severe disabilities;

12 (iv) individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias and their caregivers; and

13 (v) tribal members.

14 ~~(7)~~(6) The review must:

15 (a) identify high-volume and low-volume service areas;

16 (b) identify and resolve obstacles for service delivery;

17 (c) project the estimated utilization of services;

18 (d) evaluate the statewide funding formula; and

19 (e) set planning and service areas that are based on sound data and analysis.

20 ~~(8)~~(7) The department shall report twice a year to the children, families, health, and human services
21 interim committee in accordance with 5-11-210 on the efforts undertaken to develop the plan and implement
22 services."

23
24 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Appropriation.** There is appropriated \$46,850 from the general fund to
25 the department of public health and human services in each year of the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, to
26 carry out the purposes of [sections 1 and 2].

27
28 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an