

January 24, 2023

Public Comment for House Bill 2 – Health & Human Services

**Childcare Funding**

- “Please vote to fund affordable childcare assistance. We need more good childcare providers. Parents who want to be in the workforce need to know that they are leaving their children with quality care and also need to have affordable care.”

-Karen Sheets

- “Every Montana deserves the opportunity to get quality, affordable childcare.

It is essential for our economy; it is essential for Montana workers to have the freedom to go to work knowing their children are safe.

For many families the cost is out of reach if they can find childcare at all. Not only do we have an affordability crisis, we have an availability crisis.

Affordable childcare is essential to keeping our Montana parents employed.”

-Don Gardner

- “Funding for Childcare For many families the cost is out of reach if they can find childcare at all. Not only do we have an affordability crisis, we have an availability crisis.

Affordable childcare is essential to keeping our Montana parents employed.”

-Terri Nelson

- “Every Montana parent deserves the opportunity to get quality, affordable childcare.

Quality, affordable childcare is essential for our economy. Montana working parents must have the freedom to go to work knowing their children are safe.

For many families the cost of childcare is out of reach if they can find childcare at all. Not only do we have an affordability crisis, we have an availability crisis.

Affordable childcare is essential to keeping our Montana parents employed.

The Governor's proposed budget for HB 2 does not go far enough, even though there is 2-billion-dollar surplus.”

-Gail Waldby

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- “Quality, affordable childcare is essential for our economy and for more families the cost out of reach if they can find it. Not only do we have an affordability crisis, we have an availability crisis.”

-Bonita Reishus

- “I oppose House Bill 2, Funding for Childcare, because every Montanan deserves the opportunity to get quality, affordable childcare. It is essential for the state's economy; Montana workers need to have the freedom to go to work knowing their children are safe.”

-Steven Shapero

### **Intensive Health Youth Services**

- “I have worked with kids in crisis. We need resources to support these kids. They are the Future!”

-Judy RosenfeldCox

### **Medicaid Eligibility Rules**

- “DPHHS and the Governor have made it easier to kick people off their health care by changing the Medicaid eligibility rules, which will disproportionately affect Tribal health care services.

The DPHHS needs to restore continuous eligibility and moving forward, DPHHS needs to go about redetermining eligibility requirements in a slower and more responsible way.

Their current plan for changing eligibility is irresponsible – and could kick 43,000 Montanans off their health care.”

-Don Gardner

- “The DPHHS and the Governor have made it easier to kick people off their health care by changing the Medicaid eligibility rules, which will disproportionately affect Tribal health care services. The DPHHS needs to restore continuous eligibility. The current "plan" is irresponsible and an unnecessary disregard for the tribes and their wellbeing. Unacceptable. Please support and fund this critically important bill.”

-Dawn Gandalf

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➤ “Funding for Tribal Communities and Members

DPHHS and Governor Gianforte have made it easier to kick people off their health care by changing Medicaid eligibility rules. This will disproportionately affect Tribal health care services.

DPHHS must restore continuous eligibility.

DPHHS must redetermine eligibility requirements in a slower, more responsible procedure.

DPHHS's current plan for changing eligibility and could remove healthcare from 43,000 Montanans.”

-Gail Waldby

➤ “The DPHHS and the Governor have made it easier to kick people off their health care by changing the Medicaid eligibility rules, which will disproportionately affect Tribal health care services

And moving forward, needs to go about redetermining eligibility requirements in a slower and more responsible way.”

-Bonita Reishus