

January 27, 2023

Public Comment for House Bill 2 – Health & Human Services

Childcare Funding

- “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. It is possible to pay \$1000/month or more for childcare. The Governor’s proposed budget for HB 2 does not go far enough even though there is 2-billion-dollar surplus.”

-Caryl Cox

Medicaid Eligibility Rules

- “I am opposed to this bill. It makes it easier to kick people off their health care by changing Medicaid eligibility rules. This will disproportionately affect Tribal members.

With this change, 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. Eligibility requirements need to be determined in a slower and more responsible way.”

-Caryl Cox