



A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF STATE-OPERATED PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS SERVING INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS, INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES, AND CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY; AND REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 64TH LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health and Human Services operates public institutions that care for individuals in need, including individuals in need of treatment and services because of mental illness, intellectual disabilities, or chemical dependency; and

WHEREAS, facilities operated by the Department of Corrections serve a number of offenders whose treatment needs involve mental illness, intellectual disabilities, or chemical dependency; and

WHEREAS, the understanding of treatment options and the recovery process for these individuals continues to evolve; and

WHEREAS, the state may be able to more effectively serve individuals who have similar treatment needs if it reviews and reconfigures its system of public institutions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, to:

(1) study state-operated facilities that serve individuals with mental illness, intellectual disabilities, and chemical dependency to determine if changes to the current system of facilities could:

(a) provide more effective treatment; and

(b) serve individuals in a more cost-effective manner; and

(2) review operations at the Montana State Hospital at Warm Springs, the Montana Developmental Center at Boulder, the Montana Chemical Dependency Center at Butte, the Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center at Lewistown, the Montana State Prison at Deer Lodge, and the Montana Women's Prison at Billings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study review:

- (1) the populations served by each facility;
- (2) the services provided at each facility for treatment of mental illness, intellectual disabilities, and chemical dependency;
- (3) the degree to which treatment needs are unmet or underserved at each facility;
- (4) the cost of operating each facility, including the costs of providing treatment for mental illness, intellectual disabilities, and chemical dependency;
- (5) barriers to providing necessary treatment at the facilities;
- (6) the ways in which the facilities collaborate to meet treatment needs of the target populations;
- (7) the projected long-term needs for the populations served by the facilities;
- (8) alternative approaches to providing the services that may improve the quality of care and increase access to additional funding streams; and
- (9) other items as identified by the interim committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study involve the participation of the Department of Public Health and Human Services, the Department of Corrections, community mental health providers, providers of services to individuals with intellectual disabilities and with substance abuse disorders, individuals who have received services in state-operated facilities identified in this resolution and their family members, and representatives of law enforcement, health care providers, health advocacy organizations, and other interested parties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2014.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions, comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 64th Legislature.

- END -

I hereby certify that the within joint resolution,
HJ 0016, originated in the House.

Chief Clerk of the House

Speaker of the House

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2013.

President of the Senate

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2013.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 16

INTRODUCED BY J. ECK

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