

Amendment - 2nd Reading-yellow - Requested by: Jonathan Windy Boy - (S) Committee of the Whole

69th Legislature

Drafter: Chanan Brown,

SJ0029.001.001

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 29
2 INTRODUCED BY J. WINDY BOY, S. WEBBER, D. HAYMAN, A. OLSEN, M. YAKAWICH, C. NEUMANN, C.
3 POPE, L. SMITH, D. LOGE, E. BOLDMAN, M. CUNNINGHAM, A. GRIFFITH, J. KARLEN, K. SULLIVAN, T.
4 RUNNING WOLF, C. SPRUNGER

5
6 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
7 MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY ON COORDINATING EFFORTS BETWEEN THE
8 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND, THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC
9 INSTRUCTION, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO ADDRESS THE IMPACTS OF PRENATAL
10 EXPOSURE TO METHAMPHETAMINE AND FENTANYL ON CHILDREN; AND REQUIRING THAT THE
11 FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 70TH LEGISLATURE.

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13 WHEREAS, an increasing number of babies born in Montana have been exposed to methamphetamine
14 and fentanyl in utero; and

15 WHEREAS, the long-term impacts of prenatal exposure to methamphetamine and fentanyl include an
16 increased risk of developmental delays, cognitive impairments, and learning disabilities; and

17 WHEREAS, this increased risk can be further exacerbated in areas of concentrated poverty that are
18 affected by generational trauma; and

19 WHEREAS, the State-Tribal Relations Committee is the statutory committee charged with encouraging
20 state-tribal cooperation and local government-tribal cooperation and with conducting interim studies as
21 assigned; and

22 WHEREAS, a coordinated effort between the Department of Public Health and Human Services and,
23 the Office of Public Instruction, and the Department of Justice to address these long-term impacts holds the
24 most promise in addressing the health and learning needs of children who had prenatal exposure to
25 methamphetamine and fentanyl.

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

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1 That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee or statutory
2 committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, to examine how the Department of Public Health and Human
3 Services, and the Office of Public Instruction, and the Department of Justice can best coordinate their efforts to
4 address the health and learning needs of children who had prenatal exposure to methamphetamine and
5 fentanyl.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee:

7 (1) collaborate in this study with:

8 (a) the Department of Public Health and Human Services;

9 (b) the Office of Public Instruction;

10 (c) the Department of Justice;

11 (e)(d) tribal governments;

12 (d)(e) county and tribal health departments; and

13 (e)(f) early childhood care providers and education providers¹;

14 (2) gather, compile, and review statistics on the number of children who had prenatal exposure to
15 methamphetamine and fentanyl;

16 (3) investigate ways other states have addressed the health and learning needs of children who
17 had prenatal exposure to methamphetamine and fentanyl; and

18 (4) develop proposals in collaboration with the Department of Public Health and Human Services,
19 and the Office of Public Instruction, and the Department of Justice for a coordinated response to effectively
20 address the health and learning needs of children who had prenatal exposure to methamphetamine and
21 fentanyl.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review
23 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2026.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,
25 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 70th Legislature.

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- END -