

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 29

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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 TO ADDRESS THE IMPACTS OF PRENATAL EXPOSURE TO METHAMPHETAMINE AND
10 FENTANYL ON CHILDREN; AND REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED
11 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;

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;

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

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

28 That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee or statutory

1 committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, to examine how the Department of Public Health and Human
2 Services and the Office of Public Instruction can best coordinate their efforts to address the health and learning
3 needs of children who had prenatal exposure to methamphetamine and fentanyl.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee:

5 (1) collaborate in this study with:

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

7 (b) the Office of Public Instruction;

8 (c) tribal governments;

9 (d) county and tribal health departments; and

10 (e) early childhood care providers and education providers.

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

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

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

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

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

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