

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 31

INTRODUCED BY J. CARLSON

1
2
3
4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5 MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY TO ADDRESS THE LACK OF DAY CARE AVAILABILITY,
6 DIVERSITY, AND CHOICE THROUGHOUT THE MANY DIFFERENT REGIONS OF MONTANA AND TO
7 PROPOSE IMPROVEMENTS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO DAY CARE AND PROMOTE THE PROVISION OF
8 DAY CARE IN MONTANA; AND REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED
9 TO THE 69TH LEGISLATURE.

10
11 WHEREAS, barriers exist to providing and accessing day care; and
12 WHEREAS, it is increasingly expensive and rare to find suitable day care placements for infants,
13 toddlers, and preschool-age children in communities throughout the state; and
14 WHEREAS, the 51st Montana Legislature intended to increase access to diverse, adequate, affordable
15 day care with the Montana Child Care Act of 1989; and
16 WHEREAS, we are not achieving the goals of the Montana Child Care Act; and
17 WHEREAS, this has increased the cost of care for Montana families and to the state.

18
19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
20 THE STATE OF MONTANA:

21 That the Legislative Council be requested to designate the Children, Families, Health, and Human
22 Services Interim Committee to investigate barriers to providing and accessing day care in the state.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the interim committee:

- 24 (1) consider the experiences and challenges of parents related to finding appropriate, affordable
25 day care in their communities, including:
26 (a) availability;
27 (b) quality and safety; and
28 (c) affordability;

