

1 SENATE BILL NO. 94
2 INTRODUCED BY B. USHER
3 BY REQUEST OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
4

5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITING CERTAIN
6 PRACTICES FOR RECOVERY RESIDENCES; CREATING A REGISTRY OF RECOVERY RESIDENCES IN
7 MONTANA; REQUIRING CERTIFICATION FOR A RECOVERY RESIDENCE TO RECEIVE RENTAL
8 VOUCHERS AND TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS;
9 PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; AMENDING SECTION 46-23-1041, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
10 DATE."
11

12 WHEREAS, Montanans facing addiction deserve the highest quality of care and support; and
13 WHEREAS, recovery residences can provide a healthy, sober living environment that helps individuals
14 with substance use disorders achieve and maintain sobriety; and

15 WHEREAS, it is crucial that recovery residences implement best practices and sound operating
16 procedures that enable and empower residents to gain access to community support, public services, and
17 therapeutic treatments to advance their recovery and develop independence.
18

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
20

21 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Definitions.** As used in this part, unless the context clearly indicates
22 otherwise, the following definitions apply:

23 (1) "Alcohol and drug prevention or treatment facility" means a recovery residence, hospital, health
24 or counseling center, or other entity providing alcohol and drug services.

25 (2) "Alcohol and drug services" includes evaluation, treatment, residential personal care,
26 habilitation, rehabilitation, counseling, or supervision of persons with substance use disorders or services to
27 persons designed to prevent substance use disorders that either receive funds from the department of public

Amendment - 2nd Reading/2nd House-tan - Requested by: Bill Mercer - (H) Committee of the Whole

68th Legislature

Drafter: Todd Everts, 406-444-4023

SB0094.005.004

1 health and human services or assess fees for services provided.

2 (3) "Certified recovery residence" means a recovery residence, as defined in subsection (8), that
3 has received certification or another form of approval from a certifying organization, as defined in subsection
4 (4).

5 (4) "Certifying organization" means a recovery residence standards organization or an affiliate of a
6 recovery residence standards organization that operates in the state of Montana and is recognized by the
7 department of public health and human services.

8 (5) "Levels of care" means the continuum of support ranging from nonclinical recovery residences
9 to licensed clinical treatment.

10 (6) "Minor" means an individual under 18 years of age without regard to sex.

11 (7) "Qualified health care provider" means a person licensed as a physician, psychologist, social
12 worker, clinical professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, addiction counselor, or another
13 appropriate licensed health care practitioner.

14 (8) "Recovery residence" means a sober living home with a safe, family-like environment that
15 promotes recovery from substance use disorders through services including but not limited to peer support,
16 mutual support groups, and recovery services.

17 (9) "Sober" means free of alcohol and drugs, except for prescription medications taken as directed
18 by a licensed prescriber, including medications approved by the United States food and drug administration for
19 the treatment of opioid use disorder.

20 (10) (a) "Substance use disorder" means the use of any chemical substance, legal or illegal, that
21 creates behavioral or health problems, or both, resulting in operational impairment.

22 (b) This term includes alcoholism, drug dependency, or both, that endanger the health,
23 interpersonal relationships, or economic functions of an individual or the public health, safety, or welfare.

24

25 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Recovery residence requirements.** (1) A recovery residence must
26 register with the department of public health and human services.

27 (2) A recovery residence may seek certification from a certifying organization.

Amendment - 2nd Reading/2nd House-tan - Requested by: Bill Mercer - (H) Committee of the Whole

68th Legislature

Drafter: Todd Everts, 406-444-4023

SB0094.005.004

- 1 (3) A recovery residence must have policies and protocols for the following:
- 2 (a) administrative oversight;
- 3 (b) quality standards, INCLUDING IF THE RECOVERY RESIDENCE LIMITS OR PROHIBITS THE USE OF
- 4 NARCOTIC MEDICATION;
- 5 (c) its residents;
- 6 (d) emergencies, including fire, natural disasters, and health emergencies, including overdose; and
- 7 (e) eviction of a resident, including the return of the resident's personal effects and property.
- 8 (4) A recovery residence must meet state and municipal requirements that apply to a residence's
- 9 dwelling size and occupancy, including but not limited to safety requirements, building codes, zoning
- 10 regulations, and local ordinance requirements.
- 11 (5) A recovery residence must keep opioid-overdose drugs on site in an easily accessible place
- 12 and train staff and residents on the use of opioid-overdose drugs.
- 13 (6) Minor children of residents may reside with their parent in a certified recovery residence if
- 14 allowed in the residence's policies and protocols and if the residence maintains an environment consistent with
- 15 the welfare of minor residents.
- 16 (7) The recovery residence may not limit a resident's duration of stay to an arbitrary or fixed
- 17 amount of time UNLESS ALL TRANSITION AND COMPLETION DATES ARE AGREED ON BY BOTH PARTIES AT THE TIME OF
- 18 ADMISSION. Each resident's duration of stay is determined by the resident's needs, progress, and willingness to
- 19 abide by the recovery residence's protocols in collaboration with the recovery residence's owner and operator
- 20 and, if appropriate, in consultation with a qualified health care provider.
- 21 (8) The recovery residence may permit residents to receive medication-assisted treatment.
- 22 (9) (A) EACH RECOVERY RESIDENCE SHALL PROVIDE AN ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT TO THE CERTIFYING
- 23 ORGANIZATION, including a description of any programming and services designed to reduce recidivism and
- 24 facilitate rehabilitation among residents during the year covered by the report and the number of residents for
- 25 whom such services were provided.
- 26 (B) THE CERTIFYING ORGANIZATION SHALL PROVIDE AN ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT, including a
- 27 description of any programming and services designed to reduce recidivism and facilitate rehabilitation among

1 residents during the year covered by the report and the number of residents for whom such services were
2 provided, IN ACCORDANCE WITH 5-11-210, TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE OVERSIGHT COUNCIL.

3

4 NEW SECTION. Section 3. Recovery residence prohibitions. (1) The operator or staff of a
5 recovery residence may not:

6 (a) make a materially false or misleading statement or provide materially false or misleading
7 information about the residence's identity, products, goods, services, or geographical locations in its marketing
8 and advertising materials, media, and website;

9 (b) include on a website false information or electronic links, coding, or activation that provides
10 false information or that surreptitiously directs the reader to another website;

11 (c) solicit, receive, or make an attempt to solicit or receive a commission, benefit, rebate, kickback,
12 or bribe, directly or indirectly, in cash or in kind, in return for a referral or an acceptance or acknowledgement of
13 treatment from a qualified health care provider, provider of alcohol and drug services, or alcohol and drug
14 prevention or treatment facility;

15 (d) engage or make an attempt to engage in a split-fee arrangement in return for a referral or an
16 acceptance or acknowledgement of treatment from a qualified health care provider, provider of alcohol and
17 drug services, or alcohol and drug prevention or treatment facility; or

18 (e) enter into a contract with a marketing provider who agrees to generate referrals or leads for the
19 placement of patients with a qualified health care provider, provider of alcohol and drug services, or alcohol and
20 drug prevention or treatment facility through a call center or a web-based presence unless this contract is
21 disclosed to the prospective patient or resident.

22 (2) In addition to any other penalty authorized by law, a recovery residence that knowingly violates
23 this section is subject to prosecution and penalties pursuant to the Montana Consumer Protection Act, Title 30,
24 chapter 14, part 1.

25

26 NEW SECTION. Section 4. Powers and duties of department of public health and human
27 services -- ANNUAL COUNTY REPORT. (1) The department of public health and human services shall: