

**Unofficial Draft Copy**

As of: June 7, 2016 (10:39am)

LCCF7a

\*\*\*\* Bill No. \*\*\*\*

Introduced By \*\*\*\*\*

By Request of the Children, Families, Health, and Human Services  
Interim Committee

A Bill for an Act entitled: "An Act providing an appropriation for a conference to evaluate the need for a working interdisciplinary network of guardianship stakeholders; and providing an effective date."

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Montana:

**NEW SECTION. Section 1. Working interdisciplinary network of guardianship stakeholders conference -- appropriation. (1)**

There is appropriated from the general fund to the judicial branch [AN AMOUNT] for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, to hold a conference for individuals and organizations interested in the development of a working interdisciplinary network of guardianship stakeholders.

(2) The conference must be designed to:

(a) encourage discussion of the need for an ongoing evaluation of guardianship laws and practices in Montana; and

(b) determine whether interest exists in creating a working interdisciplinary network of guardianship stakeholders to serve as the mechanism for conducting ongoing evaluation of and exploring improvements to guardianship practices.

(3) Conference topics must include:

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(a) the strengths and weaknesses of the state's current system of adult guardianship laws, services, and practices and less restrictive decisionmaking options;

(b) key policy and practice issues;

(c) the status of and need for outreach, education, and training efforts on guardianship matters; and

(d) whether a working interdisciplinary network of guardianship stakeholders should be formed.

(4) If participants determine that formation of a working interdisciplinary network is appropriate, participants shall recommend:

(a) how the group should be structured;

(b) the priority areas to be addressed; and

(c) potential sources of funding to support the group's activities.

(5) The judicial branch shall prepare a report on the conference activities and conclusions and provide it to the Montana supreme court, district courts, the legislature as provided in 5-11-210, and other interested parties. The report may be distributed electronically.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. {standard} Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2017.

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{Name : Sue O'Connell  
Title : Research Analyst  
Agency : Legislative Services Division-136B  
Phone : (406) 444-3597  
E-Mail : soconnell@mt.gov}