

## 1 HOUSE BILL NO. 23

2 INTRODUCED BY J. WINDY BOY

3 BY REQUEST OF THE STATE-TRIBAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

4

5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE AMERICAN INDIAN AND RURAL YOUTH  
6 SUICIDE PREVENTION PILOT GRANT PROGRAM; REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
7 AND HUMAN SERVICES TO ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM; DEFINING SERVICES THAT QUALIFY  
8 FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM; REQUIRING REPORTS; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION; AND PROVIDING  
9 AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE."

10

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

12

13 **NEW SECTION. Section 1. American Indian and rural youth suicide prevention -- pilot grant**

14 **program.** (1) There is an American Indian and rural youth suicide prevention pilot grant program to be  
15 administered by the department of public health and human services. The program is a 2-year program. The  
16 purpose of the program is to use elder-influenced culturally based education, prevention, and intervention  
17 strategies to confront the risk of suicide in rural communities.

18 (2) The grantee programs shall focus on the continuum of prevention, intervention, and post-event  
19 assistance to American Indian and rural individuals and families and Indian tribes. The grantees must identify and  
20 meet the specific needs of the community where they are based.

21 (3) To be awarded a grant under this section, in addition to the requirements in subsection (2), each  
22 program selected must provide one or more of the following services:

23 (a) training for first responders about suicide protocols;

24 (b) mental health crisis case management for a youth and the youth's family within 24 hours of  
25 identification of a crisis situation;

26 (c) evaluation and assessment of a youth who seeks help from the program or who has been referred  
27 to the program using a culturally appropriate trauma screening to determine the services that are available to best  
28 meet the needs of the youth and the youth's family;

29 (d) a culturally based or trauma-informed program for suicide prevention to engage American Indian  
30 youth in a practice approved by the tribal community or in the community at large; or

- 1 (e) short-term residential crisis stabilization services.
- 2 (4) Successful grantees are encouraged to maximize the impact of the grant funds by leveraging existing  
3 resources and forming partnerships with other state, local, tribal, and federal entities.
- 4 (5) (a) Each grantee shall report to the department on the expenditure of grant funds, outcome  
5 measures, and overall program progress.
- 6 (b) The department shall compile the reports from the grantees and, pursuant to 5-11-210, present a final  
7 report on the pilot program to the state-tribal relations committee established in 5-5-229 during the 2017-2018  
8 interim. The final report must include the department's findings and recommendations, including a  
9 recommendation related to ongoing funding and the viability of medicaid funding for Indian health service  
10 providers.

11

12 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Reporting to the state-tribal relations committee.** The department shall  
13 report regularly to the state-tribal relations committee established in 5-5-229 regarding any activities it undertakes  
14 related to the prevention of suicide among American Indians in Montana.

15

16 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Appropriation.** There is appropriated \$250,000 from the general fund to  
17 the department of public health and human services for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, for the purposes  
18 described in [section 1]. Any remaining funds that are unencumbered as of June 30, 2019, must revert to the  
19 general fund.

20

21 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Codification instruction.** [Section 2] is intended to be codified as an  
22 integral part of Title 53, chapter 21, part 11, and the provisions of Title 53, chapter 21, part 11, apply to [section  
23 2].

24

25 **NEW SECTION. Section 5. Notification to tribal governments.** The secretary of state shall send a  
26 copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the seven Montana reservations and to the Little Shell  
27 Chippewa tribe.

28

29 **NEW SECTION. Section 6. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

30

