

## 1 HOUSE BILL NO. 703

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7  
 8 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF VACCINATION STATUS OR  
 9 IMMUNITY PASSPORT FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION; AMENDING  
 10 SECTIONS 13-1-116 AND 49-2-101, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

11  
 12 WHEREAS, as noted in section 50-16-502, MCA, "health care information is personal and sensitive  
 13 information that if improperly used or released may do significant harm to a patient's interests in privacy and  
 14 health care or other interests"; and

15 WHEREAS, the Montana Supreme Court has concluded that "medical records fall within the zone of  
 16 privacy protected by Article II, section 10, of the Montana Constitution" and "are quintessentially private and  
 17 deserve the utmost constitutional protection"; and

18 WHEREAS, government adoption of tracking immunity passports or medical data can lead to new  
 19 forms of discrimination that could easily be expanded to include other forms of personal health data, such as  
 20 mental health records and genetic test results.

21  
 22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

23  
 24 **NEW SECTION. Section 1. Use of vaccination status or immunity passport prohibited for**  
 25 **certain identification cards, benefits, and services -- legislative purpose -- EXCEPTIONS.** (1) The legislature  
 26 recognizes that the adoption, use, or sharing of vaccination status or immunity passports is a voluntary act by  
 27 an individual. The purpose of this section is to recognize that individuals ~~must be free from coercion~~ **MAY NOT BE**  
 28 **MANDATED** to provide private sensitive medical data to a third party.

1 (2) A state or local ~~government~~GOVERNMENTAL entity or public accommodation operating in this state  
2 may not:

3 (a) connect an individual's ~~medical records~~ VACCINATION STATUS OR IMMUNITY PASSPORT, digitally or  
4 otherwise, to an individual's government-issued records or identification, including but not limited to a passport,  
5 driver's license, identification card, birth certificate, or social security card;

6 (b) require an individual to offer proof of vaccination status or immunity passport in order to obtain,  
7 maintain, or renew any government-issued ~~card~~ IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT, government benefits, OR public  
8 assistance as defined in 53-2-101, ~~or membership card related to a private business; OR~~

9 ~~(c) compel or coerce an individual to receive any pharmaceutical product or intervention; or~~

10 ~~(d)(C)~~ require vaccination status or immunity passport to access or acquire ~~common life-sustaining~~  
11 goods and services available to the public, including but not limited to COMMON LIFE-SUSTAINING GOODS SUCH AS  
12 food, child care products, and medication.

13 ~~(2) For the purposes of this section, medical records include:~~

14 ~~(a) medical records controlled by a government entity; and~~

15 ~~(b) vaccination status or immunity passport.~~

16 ~~(3)(2)(3)~~ A person, public accommodation, or a ~~government~~GOVERNMENTAL entity that requires an  
17 individual WHO IS NOT AN EMPLOYEE to present a driver's license or ~~an identification card~~ A GOVERNMENT-ISSUED  
18 IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT ~~as proof of driving or FOR~~ traveling privileges may not:

19 (a) require an individual to offer proof of vaccination status or immunity passport in order to travel; or

20 (b) ~~discriminate against~~, deny services or access for services, segregate, publicly identify, or  
21 otherwise penalize an individual for not receiving a vaccination or providing proof of immunity from any  
22 communicable disease.

23 (4) A HOSPITAL OR HEALTH CARE FACILITY AS DEFINED IN 50-5-101 IS NOT IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION IF  
24 THE HOSPITAL OR FACILITY REQUESTS VISITORS TO PROVIDE VACCINATION STATUS OR IMMUNITY PASSPORT FOR  
25 ENTRANCE DURING A DECLARED EMERGENCY BASED ON AN OUTBREAK OR EPIDEMIC OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AND  
26 PROVIDES AN ALTERNATIVE REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION FOR VISITORS WHO DO NOT WISH TO PROVIDE THEIR  
27 VACCINATION STATUS OR IMMUNITY PASSPORT.

28 ~~(4)(3)(5)~~ This section does not apply to:

1           (A) a person who is confirmed to have a communicable disease and is quarantined under a public  
2 isolation order; OR

3           (B) A PRIVATELY OR PUBLICLY OPERATED LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY PROVIDING SKILLED NURSING CARE AS  
4 DEFINED IN 50-5-101 THAT HAS RECEIVED NOTIFICATION OF A DEFICIENCY FROM THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND  
5 MEDICAID SERVICES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH A FEDERAL LAW, REGULATION, OR ENFORCEABLE GUIDANCE THAT  
6 REQUIRES THE FACILITY TO BASE AN OPERATIONAL POLICY OR PROCEDURE ON A PERSON'S VACCINATION STATUS IF THE  
7 DEFICIENCY WILL RESULT IN A FEDERAL ENFORCEMENT ACTION. THIS EXCEPTION APPLIES ONLY TO THE EXTENT  
8 SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED BY THE FEDERAL LAW, REGULATION, OR ENFORCEABLE GUIDANCE AND IDENTIFIED IN THE  
9 NOTIFICATION OF THE DEFICIENCY.

10

11           **Section 2.** Section 13-1-116, MCA, is amended to read:

12           **"13-1-116. Fingerprint, mark, or agent for disabled electors -- rulemaking.** (1) Except as  
13 otherwise specified by law, the provisions of this section apply.

14           (2) Whenever a signature is required by an elector under a provision of this title and the elector is  
15 unable because of a disability to provide a signature, the elector may provide a fingerprint, subject to  
16 subsection (6), or an identifying mark or may request that an agent, election administrator, or election judge  
17 sign for the elector as provided in this section.

18           (3) If an elector is unable to provide a fingerprint or an identifying mark and the elector has not  
19 established an agent pursuant to subsection (4), the election administrator or an election judge may sign for the  
20 elector after reviewing and verifying the elector's identification.

21           (4) (a) An elector who is unable to provide a signature may apply to the election administrator to have  
22 another person designated as an agent for purposes of providing a signature or identifying mark required  
23 pursuant to this title and for providing any other assistance to the elector throughout the registration and voting  
24 process. The use of an agent is a reasonable accommodation under the provisions of 49-2-101~~(19)~~(20)(b).

25           (b) An application for designation of an agent by an elector under this section must be made on a  
26 form prescribed by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall by rule establish the criteria that must be  
27 met and the process that must be followed in order for a person to become a designated agent for a disabled  
28 elector pursuant to this subsection (4).

1 (5) If an election administrator or election judge signs or marks a document for an elector pursuant to  
2 this section, the election administrator or election judge shall initial the signature or mark.

3 (6) A disabled elector may not be required to provide a fingerprint."  
4

5 **Section 3.** Section 49-2-101, MCA, is amended to read:

6 **"49-2-101. Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the context requires otherwise, the following  
7 definitions apply:

8 (1) "Age" means number of years since birth. It does not mean level of maturity or ability to handle  
9 responsibility. These latter criteria may represent legitimate considerations as reasonable grounds for  
10 discrimination without reference to age.

11 (2) "Aggrieved party" means a person who can demonstrate a specific personal and legal interest, as  
12 distinguished from a general interest, and who has been or is likely to be specially and injuriously affected by a  
13 violation of this chapter.

14 (3) "Commission" means the commission for human rights provided for in 2-15-1706.

15 (4) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of labor and industry provided for in 2-15-1701.

16 (5) "Credit" means the right granted by a creditor to a person to defer payment of a debt, to incur debt  
17 and defer its payment, or to purchase property or services and defer payment. It includes without limitation the  
18 right to incur and defer debt that is secured by residential real property.

19 (6) "Credit transaction" means any invitation to apply for credit, application for credit, extension of  
20 credit, or credit sale.

21 (7) "Creditor" means a person who, regularly or as a part of the person's business, arranges for the  
22 extension of credit for which the payment of a financial charge or interest is required, whether in connection  
23 with loans, sale of property or services, or otherwise.

24 (8) "Department" means the department of labor and industry provided for in 2-15-1701.

25 (9) "Educational institution" means a public or private institution and includes an academy; college;  
26 elementary or secondary school; extension course; kindergarten; nursery; school system; university; business,  
27 nursing, professional, secretarial, technical, or vocational school; or agent of an educational institution.

28 (10) (a) "Employee" means an individual employed by an employer.

1 (b) The term does not include an individual providing services for an employer if the individual has an  
2 independent contractor exemption certificate issued under 39-71-417 and is providing services under the terms  
3 of that certificate.

4 (11) "Employer" means an employer of one or more persons or an agent of the employer but does not  
5 include a fraternal, charitable, or religious association or corporation if the association or corporation is not  
6 organized either for private profit or to provide accommodations or services that are available on a  
7 nonmembership basis.

8 (12) "Employment agency" means a person undertaking to procure employees or opportunities to  
9 work.

10 (13) "Financial institution" means a commercial bank, trust company, savings bank, finance company,  
11 savings and loan association, credit union, investment company, or insurance company.

12 (14) "Housing accommodation" means a building or portion of a building, whether constructed or to be  
13 constructed, that is or will be used as the sleeping quarters of its occupants.

14 (15) "Immunity passport" means a document, digital record, or software application indicating that a  
15 person is immune to a disease, either through vaccination or infection and recovery.

16 ~~(15)~~(16) "Labor organization" means an organization or an agent of an organization organized for the  
17 purpose, in whole or in part, of collective bargaining, of dealing with employers concerning grievances or terms  
18 or conditions of employment, or of other mutual aid and protection of employees.

19 ~~(16)~~(17) "National origin" means ancestry.

20 ~~(17)~~(18) (a) "Organization" means a corporation, association, or any other legal or commercial entity  
21 that engages in advocacy of, enforcement of, or compliance with legal interests affected by this chapter.

22 (b) The term does not include a labor organization.

23 ~~(18)~~(19) "Person" means one or more individuals, labor unions, partnerships, associations,  
24 corporations, legal representatives, mutual companies, joint-stock companies, trusts, unincorporated  
25 employees' associations, employers, employment agencies, organizations, or labor organizations.

26 ~~(19)~~(20) (a) "Physical or mental disability" means:

27 (i) a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of a person's major life  
28 activities;

- 1 (ii) a record of such an impairment; or  
 2 (iii) a condition regarded as such an impairment.

3 (b) Discrimination based on, because of, on the basis of, or on the grounds of physical or mental  
 4 disability includes the failure to make reasonable accommodations that are required by an otherwise qualified  
 5 person who has a physical or mental disability. An accommodation that would require an undue hardship or that  
 6 would endanger the health or safety of any person is not a reasonable accommodation.

7 ~~(20)~~(21) (a) "Public accommodation" means a place that caters or offers its services, goods, or  
 8 facilities to the general public subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable to  
 9 all persons. It includes without limitation a public inn, restaurant, eating house, hotel, roadhouse, place where  
 10 food or alcoholic beverages or malt liquors are sold for consumption, motel, soda fountain, soft drink parlor,  
 11 tavern, nightclub, trailer park, resort, campground, barbering, barbering nonchemical, cosmetology, electrology,  
 12 esthetics, or manicuring salon or shop, bathroom, resthouse, theater, swimming pool, skating rink, golf course,  
 13 cafe, ice cream parlor, transportation company, or hospital and all other public amusement and business  
 14 establishments.

15 (b) Public accommodation does not include an institution, club, or place of accommodation that  
 16 proves that it is by its nature distinctly private. An institution, club, or place of accommodation may not be  
 17 considered by its nature distinctly private if it has more than 100 members, provides regular meal service, and  
 18 regularly receives payment for dues, fees, use of space, facilities, services, meals, or beverages, directly or  
 19 indirectly, from or on behalf of nonmembers, for the furtherance of trade or business. For the purposes of this  
 20 subsection ~~(20)~~(21), any lodge of a recognized national fraternal organization is considered by its nature  
 21 distinctly private.

22 (22) "Vaccination status" means an indication of whether a person has received one or more doses of  
 23 a vaccination."

24  
 25 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Appropriation.** There is appropriated \$500 from the general fund to the  
 26 department of labor and industry for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, to provide online notice of immunity  
 27 passport laws.

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