

STATE OF MONTANA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 04-07

ESTABLISHING THE MONTANA FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

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WHEREAS, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), a pattern of alcohol-related birth defects and alcohol-related neurological defects caused by prenatal alcohol exposure, is associated with permanent physical and neurological dysfunction, and is recognized as the leading cause of mental retardation; and

WHEREAS, FASD is 100% preventable; and

WHEREAS, FASD affects all socioeconomic, geographic, and ethnic groups, resulting in more than 1 million children exposed to alcohol during gestation in the US every year; and

WHEREAS, in the region including Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota, a child with FASD is born every other day; and

WHEREAS, the estimated lifetime cost for caring for one child with FASD is \$2 million; and

WHEREAS, FASD has a devastating effect on families and communities; and

WHEREAS, Montana state government has a critical interest in strengthening families and communities and protecting the public health; and

WHEREAS, the state has a responsibility to provide leadership and guidance in promoting education, prevention and intervention in FASD; and

WHEREAS, such a responsibility requires collaboration, commitment and resources from multiple levels of government and the private sector to effectively prevent the primary cause of FASD -- alcohol consumption during pregnancy -- through early intervention.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Brian Schweitzer, Governor of the State of Montana, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the laws and the Constitution of the State of Montana, do hereby establish the Montana Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Council is to study and recommend public policy to the Governor and the Department of Public Health and Human Services ("DPHHS") concerning the initiation, coordination, promotion, implementation and evaluation of services and activities that can effectively prevent FASD.

II. DUTIES

The Council shall meet twice-yearly, or as needed, as provided in § 2-15-122(7), MCA, to seek information and discuss strategies to fulfill its purpose. The Department of Public Health and Human Services shall organize Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Advisory Council meetings.

III. COMPOSITION

The Council shall consist of not more than twelve members, representing health professionals, service providers, tribal populations, individuals with FASD or their families and persons knowledgeable in FASD education, prevention, intervention and funding sources. The names and addresses of the members shall be submitted by separate letter to the Secretary of State.

The Council is attached to DPHHS for administrative purposes. DPHHS shall assist the Council by providing staff and other resources and information as necessary to carry out the Council's purpose.

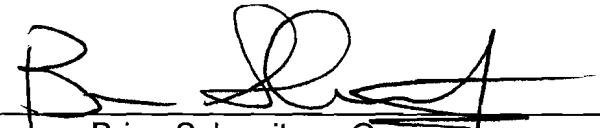
IV. COMPENSATION

Council members eligible for compensation under § 2-15-122(5), MCA, shall be compensated by the DPHHS in an amount to be determined by the Department head, not to exceed \$25 for each day in which the member is actually and necessarily engaged in the performance of Council duties. All members shall be reimbursed for travel expenses pursuant to § 2-15-122(5), MCA.

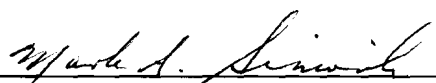
V. DURATION

The Council shall exist for a period of two years from the effective date of this Order. This Order is effective immediately.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana, this 22 day of February, 2007.

  
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Brian Schweitzer, Governor

ATTEST:

  
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for Brad Johnson, Secretary of State