

YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

House Bill Number 341

Legislative Action:

Introduced By: Nash Reilly
Authored By: Nash Reilly

House Committee: _____
House: _____
Senate Committee: _____
Senate: _____
Governor: _____

Delegation: Bozeman

Referred to Committee: House Education Committee

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO ENHANCE SEXUAL EDUCATION
2 AND SAFETY AMONG MONTANA’S ADOLESCENTS.”

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4 **Section One: Findings:** In several case studies, findings seem to report that some methods
5 of abstinence-only sex education are effective at reducing the numbers of abstinent teens.
6 The Arizona Department of Health and Human Services reports that in a study of 700
7 unmarried high school teens who had received abstinence-only sex-ed, 95% of those who
8 entered the program as virgins were still abstinent five years after they had received the
9 training. As astounding as these figures are, we must take into account the other parts of the
10 report, especially those stating that no significant change had occurred in the number of teens
11 who entered abstinence-only sex education programs who were already sexually
12 experienced. This trend suggests that more comprehensive and thorough action would be
13 wise when taking into account the reproductive health of our state’s teens.

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15 **Section Two: Intent:** This bill is written with the intent to more fully educate students on the
16 potential hazards of unprotected sex, and provide protection for those who choose a course of
17 action that is not strictly abstinent.

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19 **Section Three: Action:**
20 1). The Montana Youth Legislature hereby requires all school to teach comprehensive
21 sex education in schools, with curriculum including (but not limited to):
22 i)The risks of STDs and STIs, as well as measures to counteract such diseases
23 (specifically the Human Papillomavirus vaccination),
24 ii)The potential consequences of unplanned pregnancy,
25 iii)The use of condoms and other appropriate contraceptive devices and their relative
26 success at preventing pregnancy and STDs,
27 iv)The role and impacts of abortion in unplanned birth (with emphasis on biological,
28 emotional, and psychological impacts), and
29 v)Strategies to allow for students to remain abstinent.

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31 2). The Montana Youth Legislature requires all schools to provide condoms to
32 students on an age-based, developmentally appropriate level, with no questions asked and no

33 stigma attached to the student making the request for said items. Schools are required to
34 comply with any request for birth control under the condition of the student making the
35 request being over the age of consent (sixteen years of age) in the State of Montana.
36

37 3). The Montana Youth Legislature hereby calls for the creation of a general fund for
38 the potential of supplying all females over sixteen years of age with hormonal birth control.
39 All costs of said birth control will be covered by a general fund of the state, and will be large
40 enough to cover the requisite monthly regimens of oral contraceptive that any woman over
41 sixteen years of age may desire in the duration of this fund.
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43 **Section Four: Funding:** Funds for all measures in this bill will come from surplus in the
44 general fund, as well as a state sales tax of 5% on all tobacco and alcohol sold in the state of
45 Montana and the closing of tax loopholes in the Montana State Tax Code.
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47 **Section Five: Enforcement:** Schools that refuse compliance with said codes will be subject
48 to a fine of \$50,000 increasing by a rate of \$50,000 annually until compliance is achieved.
49 Said fines will be withdrawn from the state allotted budget of noncomplying schools and
50 placed into the general fund created for birth control.
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52 **Section Six: Effective Date:** This bill becomes effective at the beginning of the next fiscal
53 year for the State of Montana.
54

55 END

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