

1 YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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4 House Bill Number 369

Legislative Action:

5
6 Introduced by: Daniel LaDue

House Committee: _____

7 Authored by: Daniel LaDue

House: _____

Senate Committee: _____

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9 Delegation: Bozeman

Senate: _____

Governor: _____

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11 Referred to Committee: House Health & Human Services Committee

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14 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "To Make Sexual Intercourse, Between Adolescents Under
15 the Age of Twenty-One, Before Marriage Illegal in the State of Montana."

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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE MONTANA YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

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19 **Section 1 Intent:** The intent of this bill is to make the act of pre-marital sexual intercourse
20 between individuals under the age of twenty-one illegal in the state of Montana to help reduce
21 the number of out of wed-lock teen pregnancies and the number of children that grow up in
22 broken homes.

23
24 **Section 2 Plan:** The passage of the bill "To Make Sexual Intercourse, Between Adolescents
25 Under the Age of Twenty-One, Before Marriage Illegal In the State of Montana" will:

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27 A. Criminalize the act of sexual intercourse for those under twenty-one years of age before a
28 marriage license between two people is granted.
- 29
30 B. Only the act of copulation will be made illegal. All other "bases" do not qualify under this
31 bill, only if the couple was to "go all the way."
- 32
33 C. After a marriage license is granted by the court, wallet-sized marriage licenses will be
34 manufactured at all Montana Departments of Motor Vehicles, and mailed to the recipients.
35 The chief reason for these smaller licenses is explained in Section 5 part B.

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37 **Section 3: Parameters of Legal Activity:** To easily summarize what is acceptable and what is
38 sexual intercourse, the common and simple "bases" analogy will be used. Those under twenty-
39 one years of age will be "stranded on third."

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41 First Base: Engaging in standard "making out" activities.

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43 Second Base: Where the partners explore each other's bodies with their hands.

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45 Thirds Base: Oral sex.

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47 Home Run: Sexual intercourse.

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49 **Section 4 Funding:** Funding will be provided by a \$20 fee that requires all legally wed couples
50 to purchase the wallet-sized marriage licenses.

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52 **Section 5 Enforcement:**

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54 A. Upon passage, the law will be enforced by all Montana police officers. At the officer's
55 obligation, if he/she sees any people participating in the act of love-making in plain sight, then
56 he/she has the right to confront the individuals and demand proof of a valid marriage license. If
57 no license is provided, a citation will be given. If the couple wishes to appeal the ticket, a court
58 date can be arranged to prove a valid marriage license dated before the crime was committed.

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60 B. By law, any person with knowledge of any pre-marital sexual relations between unwed
61 partners is obligated to turn in the offenders. Anyone that does not turn in the offenders is an
62 accessory to the crime and will be fined.

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64 C. Forms of contraception will only be available to be purchased by people with valid marriage
65 licenses; with the exception of "dental dams."

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67 D. If a girl becomes pregnant while not married, she and the father of the child are subject to be
68 penalized unless the couple wed and remain married for at least three years.

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70 E. For first-time offenders the penalty is \$100, second-time offenders will be fined \$500, and
71 third-time-and-after offenders will be sent to court for a sentence to be determined by a judge.
72 Maximum penalty is time served in jail until the offender reaches the age of twenty-one.

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74 **Section 6 Effective Date:**

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76 A. This bill will be in effect upon passage. After passage, courts will send all new official
77 marriage licenses to respective Montana DMV's so wallet-sized licenses can be
78 manufactured. Following printing of the licenses, DMV's will mail both the regular and
79 wallet-sized licenses to the couple.

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81 B. All couples legally married prior to the passing of the bill have a three month grace
82 period to take their original marriage license to their respective Department of Motor
83 Vehicles to have a wallet-sized license made to aid in their purchase of methods used
84 for contraception.