

House Concurrent Resolution No. 17

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MESSENGER.

1079H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

1 **WHEREAS**, ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of this state is one
2 of the most important duties of Missouri's state government; and

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4 **WHEREAS**, providing public assistance to Missouri's most vulnerable citizens is a vital
5 service provided by our state; and

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7 **WHEREAS**, public assistance programs make up a significant portion of our state's
8 budget every year; and

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10 **WHEREAS**, it is critical that our limited state resources be used in the most effective
11 and efficient manner possible while providing for the needs of our citizens; and

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13 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Social Services is tasked with implementing such public
14 assistance programs as MO HealthNet, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), the
15 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and child care subsidies, among others;
16 and

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18 **WHEREAS**, it is crucial to determine whether these programs are working effectively,
19 have adequate funding, and are operating in the most efficient way possible:

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21 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
22 Representatives of the One Hundredth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
23 concurring therein, hereby establish the Joint Committee on Social Services; and

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25 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the mission of the joint committee on social
26 services is to:

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28 (1) Study and review the efficacy and efficiency of public assistance programs in the
29 state including, but not limited to, the electronic benefits transfer program, MO HealthNet,
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance

30 Program (SNAP), child care subsidies, and other public assistance programs operated by the
31 Department of Social Services;

32 (2) Determine the level and adequacy of resources needed for such public assistance
33 programs within the state; and

34 (3) Develop recommendations to the General Assembly on public assistance programs
35 within the state and promoting independence from safety net programs among participants, as
36 appropriate; and

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38 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the joint committee on social services shall consist
39 of the following members:

40 (1) Two members of the House of Representatives, with one member appointed by the
41 Speaker of the House of Representatives and one member appointed by the Minority Leader of
42 the House of Representatives;

43 (2) Two members of the Senate, with one member appointed by the President Pro
44 Tempore of the Senate and one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate;

45 (3) Two members appointed by the governor;

46 (4) The director of the Department of Social Services or his or her designee; and

47 (5) One member appointed by the director of the Department of Social Services; and

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49 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
50 designate the chair of the joint committee and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall
51 designate the vice chair of the joint committee; and

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53 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the staffs of House Research, Senate Research,
54 and the Joint Committee on Legislative Research shall provide such legal, research, clerical,
55 technical, and bill drafting services as the joint committee may require in the performance of its
56 duties; and

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58 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the joint committee, its members, and any staff
59 assigned to the joint committee shall receive reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses
60 incurred in attending meetings of the joint committee or any subcommittee thereof; and

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62 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the joint committee shall meet within two months
63 of the adoption of this resolution; and

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65 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the joint committee shall report a summary of its
66 activities and any recommendations for legislation to the General Assembly by January 1, 2020;
67 and

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69 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the joint committee is authorized to function
70 during the legislative interim of the first and second regular session of the One Hundredth
71 General Assembly, as authorized by *State v. Atterbury*, 300 S.W.2d 806 (Mo. 1957); and

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73 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the joint committee shall terminate on January 1,
74 2021; and

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76 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
77 Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the
78 Governor and the Director of the Department of Social Services.

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