

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By

1 AMEND House Committee Substitute for Senate Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill
2 No. 704, Page 2, Section 173.478, Line 4, by inserting after all of said section and line the following:

3
4 "208.952. 1. There is hereby established [the] a permanent "Joint Committee on [MO HealthNet]
5 Public Assistance". The committee shall have [as its purpose the study of] the following purposes:

6 (1) Studying, monitoring, and reviewing the efficacy of the public assistance programs within the
7 state;

8 (2) Determining the level and adequacy of resources needed [to continue and improve the MO
9 HealthNet program over time] for the public assistance programs within the state; and

10 (3) Developing recommendations to the general assembly on the public assistance programs within
11 the state and promoting independence from safety-net programs among recipients as may be appropriate.

12
13 The committee shall receive and obtain information from the departments of social services, mental health,
14 health and senior services, and elementary and secondary education, and any other department as applicable,
15 regarding the public assistance programs within the state including, but not limited to, MO HealthNet,
16 supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP), and temporary assistance for needy families (TANF).
17 Such information shall include projected enrollment growth, budgetary matters, trends in childhood poverty
18 and hunger, and any other information deemed to be relevant to the committee's purpose.

19 2. The directors of the departments of social services, mental health, and health and senior services
20 shall each submit an annual written report to the committee providing data and statistical information
21 regarding the caseloads of the department's employees involved in the administration of public assistance
22 programs.

23 3. The committee shall consist of [ten] twelve members:

24 (1) The chair and the ranking minority member of the house committee on the budget;

25 (2) The chair and the ranking minority member of the senate committee on appropriations
26 [committee];

27 (3) The chair and the ranking minority member of the house committee on appropriations [for
28 health, mental health, and social services] designated to consider public assistance legislation and matters;

29 (4) The chair and the ranking minority member of the standing senate committee [on health and
30 mental health] designated to consider public assistance legislation and matters;

31 (5) The chair and the ranking minority member of the standing house committee designated to
32 consider public assistance legislation and matters;

33 (6) A representative chosen by the speaker of the house of representatives; and

34 [(6)] (7) A senator chosen by the president pro [tem] tempore of the senate.

35
36 No more than [three] four members from each house shall be of the same political party.

37 [2.] 4. A chair of the committee shall be selected by the members of the committee.

38 [3.] 5. The committee shall meet [as necessary] at least twice a year. A portion of the meeting shall
39 be set aside for the purpose of receiving public testimony. The committee shall seek recommendations from

Standing Action Taken _____ Date _____

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1 social, economic, and public assistance experts on ways to improve the effectiveness of public assistance
 2 programs, to improve program efficiency and reduce costs, and to promote self-sufficiency among public
 3 assistance recipients as may be appropriate.

4 [4. Nothing in this section shall be construed as authorizing the committee to hire employees or
 5 enter into any employment contracts.

6 5. The committee shall receive and study the five-year rolling MO HealthNet budget forecast issued
 7 annually by the legislative budget office.]

8 6. The committee is authorized to hire staff and enter into employment contracts including, but not
 9 limited to, an executive director to conduct special reviews or investigations of the public assistance
 10 programs within the state in order to assist the committee with its duties. Staff appointments shall be
 11 approved by the president pro tempore of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives. The
 12 compensation of committee staff and the expenses of the committee shall be paid from the joint contingent
 13 fund or jointly from the senate and house contingent funds until an appropriation is made therefor.

14 7. The committee shall annually conduct a rolling five-year forecast of the public assistance
 15 programs within the state and make recommendations in a report to the general assembly by January first
 16 each year, beginning in [2008] 2018, on anticipated growth [in the MO HealthNet program] of the public
 17 assistance programs within the state, needed improvements, anticipated needed appropriations, and suggested
 18 strategies on ways to structure the state budget in order to satisfy the future needs of [the program] such
 19 programs."; and

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 21 Further amend said bill, Page 11, Section 644.021, Line 41, by inserting after all of said section and line the
 22 following:

23
 24 "[208.985. 1. Pursuant to section 33.803, by January 1, 2008, and each January first thereafter, the
 25 legislative budget office shall annually conduct a rolling five-year MO HealthNet forecast. The forecast shall
 26 be issued to the general assembly, the governor, the joint committee on MO HealthNet, and the oversight
 27 committee established in section 208.955. The forecast shall include, but not be limited to, the following,
 28 with additional items as determined by the legislative budget office:

- 29 (1) The projected budget of the entire MO HealthNet program;
- 30 (2) The projected budgets of selected programs within MO HealthNet;
- 31 (3) Projected MO HealthNet enrollment growth, categorized by population and geographic
 32 area;
- 33 (4) Projected required reimbursement rates for MO HealthNet providers; and
- 34 (5) Projected financial need going forward.

35 2. In preparing the forecast required in subsection 1 of this section, where the MO HealthNet program
 36 overlaps more than one department or agency, the legislative budget office may provide for review and
 37 investigation of the program or service level on an interagency or interdepartmental basis in an effort to
 38 review all aspects of the program.]" ; and

39
 40 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references accordingly.