

## 1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 37

2 INTRODUCED BY D. LENZ

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4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF  
5 MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM SURVEY OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE STATE OF  
6 MONTANA; AND REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE SURVEY BE REPORTED TO THE 70TH  
7 LEGISLATURE.

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9 WHEREAS, inpatient and outpatient mental health care is difficult to access in Montana; and

10 WHEREAS, the number of available providers in the state is too small to timely meet the needs of  
11 Montanans with mental health care needs.

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13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
14 THE STATE OF MONTANA:

15 That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee or statutory  
16 committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, to complete a survey of the number and geographic distribution  
17 of:

- 18 (1) emergency detention beds for mental health crisis situations;  
19 (2) beds available across the state for short-term crisis stabilization of mental health conditions;  
20 (3) beds available for long-term, voluntary psychiatric treatment for adolescents and adults;  
21 (4) providers available to stabilize individuals experiencing a mental health crisis;  
22 (5) providers of ongoing services for mental health and maintenance; and  
23 (6) psychiatrists and clinical psychologists licensed to practice in Montana.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the assigned committee draft legislation to:

25 (1) increase the number of beds available for emergency detention, involuntary civil commitments,  
26 short-term crisis stabilization, and long-term, voluntary psychiatric treatment for adolescents and adults; and

27 (2) reduce barriers that prevent behavioral health care providers from serving Montanans,  
28 especially in rural areas.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the survey, including presentation and review  
2 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2026.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the survey, including any findings, conclusions,  
4 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 70th Legislature.

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