

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 12

2 INTRODUCED BY C. HARRIS

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4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5 MONTANA URGING DEDICATION OF ALL TOBACCO SETTLEMENT PROCEEDS TO THE MONTANA
6 TOBACCO SETTLEMENT TRUST FUND FOR HEALTH CARE NEEDS, COMMENCING IN 2003.

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8 WHEREAS, the assurance of adequate health care for Montanans is among the most essential
9 policy objectives of the Legislature; and

10 WHEREAS, the State of Montana's settlement with the tobacco industry, totaling approximately
11 \$970 million over 25 years, provides an opportunity to prudently prepare for the health care challenges
12 of the 21st century; and

13 WHEREAS, careful investment of the proceeds of the tobacco settlement will yield financial
14 resources to address a wide range of health care problems in the 21st century, including but not limited
15 to mental health disorders and mental disabilities, the need for cancer research, and inadequate and remote
16 medical facilities on Indian reservations and in rural Montana.

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

20 That commencing in 2003, the Legislature dedicate all proceeds from the settlement with the
21 tobacco industry to the Montana tobacco settlement trust fund established in the constitution by the
22 voters in November 2000 for the health care needs of the people of Montana.

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