

## 1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13

2 INTRODUCED BY M. WOLERY, SOMERVILLE, E. CLARK, DEVLIN, WITT

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4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF  
5 MONTANA URGING THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AND THE CONGRESS OF THE  
6 UNITED STATES TO INCREASE RESOURCES FOR AND SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE NORTH  
7 AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (NAFTA) TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON PESTICIDES TO  
8 HARMONIZE PESTICIDE REGULATIONS BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES, TO COMMIT  
9 MORE RESOURCES FOR AND SUPPORT EFFORTS TOWARD ESTABLISHING TOLERANCES FOR  
10 PESTICIDES REGISTERED FOR USE IN CANADA BUT NOT IN THE UNITED STATES, AND TO ACCEPT  
11 REGISTRATION DATA CURRENTLY ACCEPTED BY CANADIAN OFFICIALS IN SUPPORT OF CANADIAN  
12 PESTICIDE REGISTRATIONS.

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14 WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Legislature that Montana become the trusted provider of the  
15 highest-quality food in the world with prosperous family farms, thriving rural communities, and world-class  
16 stewardship of resources, and it is further the intent of the Legislature to significantly increase net farm  
17 income, improve the quality of rural life, and increase Montana's rural population; and

18 WHEREAS, the Legislature seeks to achieve the goals by making Montana agricultural products  
19 synonymous with high-quality, ~~by dominating the premium markets,~~ by increasing value-added agricultural  
20 processing, by diversifying and increasing the value of agricultural production, by increasing farm and  
21 nonfarm cooperation that supports thriving rural communities and enhances our natural resources, and by  
22 creating a political, regulatory, economic, trade, financial, and natural resource environment in which  
23 Montana producers can compete in the global marketplace; and

24 WHEREAS, Montana farmers are forced to compete with farmers from other countries, especially  
25 Canada, who are able to use pesticide products that are not registered for use in the United States; and

26 WHEREAS, Canadian pesticides are often available at substantially reduced prices in formulations  
27 that are almost identical to those available to Montana producers but are not registered for use in the  
28 United States, and as a result, Montana farmers are unable to realize similar savings and are at a  
29 competitive disadvantage; and

30 WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency needs to put more resources into the

1 harmonization of the registration of crop protection chemicals with Canada; and

2 WHEREAS, use of the Canadian registration data by the Environmental Protection Agency could  
3 accelerate its registration process for appropriate crop protection chemicals.

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

7 That the Legislature urges the Environmental Protection Agency and the Congress of the United  
8 States to:

9 (1) increase resources for and support the efforts of the North American Free Trade Agreement  
10 (NAFTA) Technical Working Group on Pesticides to harmonize pesticide regulations between Canada and  
11 the United States;

12 (2) commit more resources for and support efforts toward establishing tolerances for pesticides  
13 registered for use in Canada but not in the United States; and

14 (3) accept registration data currently accepted by Canadian officials in support of Canadian  
15 pesticide registrations.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent by the Secretary of State to the  
17 President of the United States, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the presiding  
18 officers of the Agriculture Committees of the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives, and the  
19 Montana Congressional Delegation.

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