

1 _____ JOINT RESOLUTION NO. _____

2 INTRODUCED BY _____
3 (Primary Sponsor)

4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5 MONTANA REQUESTING A STUDY OF ATTACHING AGENCIES TO PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE BRANCH
6 DEPARTMENTS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PLAN TO
7 PHASE OUT THIS PRACTICE.

8

9 WHEREAS, Article VI, section 7, of the Montana Constitution limits the Executive Branch to no
10 more than 20 principal departments; and

11 WHEREAS, section 2-15-121, MCA, allows an agency to be created and attached to a department
12 for administrative purposes only; and

13 WHEREAS, it behooves the Legislature to review these administratively attached agencies and the
14 practice of allocating agencies to a department for administrative purposes and to develop a plan to phase
15 out this practice; and

16 WHEREAS, phasing out this practice, as appropriate, will promote efficiency, consolidate
17 responsibilities, and instill accountability.

18

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

21 That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee, pursuant
22 to section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to:

- 23 (1) inventory the state agencies attached to each department for administrative purposes only;
- 24 (2) study best practices in streamlining state Executive Branch operations;
- 25 (3) analyze options and develop recommendations for phasing out the practice of administratively
26 attaching agencies, as appropriate, and for providing that existing administratively attached agencies be
27 eventually incorporated into the principal Executive Branch departments when the incorporation will
28 promote a more efficient, responsible, and accountable organizational structure; and
- 29 (4) develop legislation to enact the recommendations.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the study is assigned to staff, any findings or conclusions be



1 presented to and reviewed by an appropriate committee designated by the Legislative Council.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review
3 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2002.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,
5 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 58th Legislature.

6 - END -