

1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 2
2 INTRODUCED BY E. BUTCHER, BECK, BERRY, COBB, COLE, CRISMORE, DEPRATU, EKEGREN, ELLIS,
3 GLASER, GRIMES, GROSFIELD, R. HOLDEN, KEENAN, KITZENBERG, MCNUTT, K. MILLER, O'NEIL,
4 SPRAGUE, STAPLETON, TASH, TAYLOR, TESTER, F. THOMAS, J. WELLS, ZOOK
5
6 A RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA OPPOSING ANY NEW DESIGNATION
7 FOR THE MISSOURI RIVER OR THE MISSOURI RIVER BREAKS.

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9 WHEREAS, SURVEYS INDICATE THAT a majority of Montanans oppose a new designation for the
10 Missouri River or the Missouri River Breaks; and

11 WHEREAS, the Missouri River and the Missouri River Breaks are protected by the federal Wild and
12 Scenic Rivers Act, Montana subdivision law, and county development regulations; and

13 WHEREAS, expanding the designation will incorporate more private and state land holdings under
14 federal management plans; and

15 WHEREAS, Article IV, section 3, of the Constitution of the United States gives authority over
16 public lands to Congress; and

17 WHEREAS, the vast number of acres being considered for designation as a monument does not
18 meet guidelines of the intent of the federal enabling legislation for monument designations, the Antiquities
19 Act of 1906, which states that the President of the United States is authorized to declare national
20 monuments and "may reserve as a part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be
21 confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be
22 protected"; and

23 ~~WHEREAS, House Resolution No. 1487 requires the President of the United States of America to~~
24 ~~seek public input and to consult with elected officials of the affected state at least 60 days before taking~~
25 ~~any action; and~~

26 WHEREAS, Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt has violated the pledge that he made during his
27 preliminary trip to Montana in the summer of 2000 to return for further analysis and input prior to any
28 recommendations for a change in designation for this area; and

29 WHEREAS, the Clinton administration has made an "11th hour" rush to create a legacy in land
30 policy without due diligence in properly analyzing the negative impacts on local and state governmental

1 divisions as well as on state and local inhabitants; AND

2 WHEREAS, EXISTING AND VALID GRAZING RIGHTS NEED TO BE RECOGNIZED AND ENFORCED; AND

3 WHEREAS, EXISTING AND VALID OIL AND GAS RIGHTS NEED TO BE ENFORCED; AND

4 WHEREAS, THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS NEEDS TO CONTINUE TO MANAGE FISH AND GAME
5 ISSUES PERTAINING TO THE MISSOURI RIVER.

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7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

8 That the ~~Legislature~~ SENATE of the State of Montana respectfully ~~request~~ REQUESTS that the
9 Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Bruce Babbitt, set aside any new proposed designation for the Missouri River
10 or the Missouri River Breaks and support the proved management practices that have maintained the
11 pristine conditions of the Missouri River and the Missouri River Breaks since first traversed by the Corps
12 of Discovery in 1804.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send copies of this resolution to the
14 Secretary of the Interior, the Montana Congressional Delegation, President William Clinton, ~~and~~ President
15 Elect George W. Bush, AND THE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL MONTANA RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL.

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