58th Legislature

1	SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 8
2	INTRODUCED BY TESTER
3	
4	A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5	MONTANA RECOMMENDING THAT IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF RESPONDING TO THE
6	DESIRES AND NEEDS OF A MAJORITY OF MONTANA'S FOREIGN GRAIN CUSTOMERS, GENETICALLY
7	ENGINEERED WHEAT OR BARLEY BE GROWN IN MONTANA ONLY WHEN THERE IS ACCEPTANCE OF
8	THESE GENETICALLY ENGINEERED CROPS BY A MAJORITY OF MONTANA'S FOREIGN MARKETS;
9	RECOMMENDINGTHATRESEARCHOFGENETICALLYENGINEEREDCROPSSHOULDCONTINUE;AND
10	ENCOURAGING REGULATORY AGENCIES TO RECOGNIZE THEIR RESPONSIBILITY AS GENETICALLY
11	ENGINEERED CROPS ARE INTRODUCED.
12	
13	WHEREAS, Montana's wheat and barley industry is a central and vital component of our state's
14	economy; and
15	WHEREAS, Montana's export markets have recognized Montana wheat and barley to be among the
16	finest in the world; and
17	WHEREAS, Montana has come to rely on these export customers to market a majority of Montana's
18	grain to Pacific Rim countries; and
19	WHEREAS, a majority of these customers have not yet accepted genetically engineered grains; and
20	WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the importance of maintaining these foreign markets.
21	
22	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
23	THE STATE OF MONTANA:
24	(1) That the introduction of genetically engineered wheat and barley for commercial production must
25	be carefully timed so that it occurs only when there is acceptance of these crops by Montana's major customers.
26	(2) That research should continue in:
27	(a) development of crops and crop characteristics that appeal to the needs of the customer;
28	(b) development of crops and crop characteristics that are economically beneficial to the producer;
29	(c) development of safeguards to reduce outcrossing of genetically engineered crops with
30	nongenetically engineered crops and weeds; and

Legislative Services Division

## 58th Legislature

1 (d) development of systems to reduce potential mixing of genetically engineered crops with 2 nongenetically engineered crops.

3 (3) That regulatory agencies are strongly encouraged to recognize the magnitude of the responsibility
4 that they have in the proper release of genetically engineered crops and do everything in their power to
5 safeguard Montana's ability to meet the needs of their grain customers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send a copy of this resolution to the United
States Department of Agriculture, the United States Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the United
States Federal Drug Administration, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Montana
Department of Agriculture, and the Montana Congressional Delegation.

10

- END -

