

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 25

2 INTRODUCED BY L. MOSS

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4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5 MONTANA EXTENDING CONDOLENCES TO THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN AFFECTED BY THE MARCH 2011
6 EARTHQUAKE AND ENSUING TSUNAMI AND NUCLEAR POWER PLANT PROBLEMS AND REQUESTING
7 THE PRESIDENT, CONGRESS, AND OTHERS TO PROVIDE ALL FEASIBLE SUPPORT TO THOSE
8 AFFECTED.

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10 WHEREAS, the unprecedented scale of the March 2011 earthquakes and tsunami in Japan has resulted
11 in countless lives lost, injuries, severe environmental degradation, and destruction beyond imagination; and

12 WHEREAS, the effects of the disaster impact the people of Japan and all people worldwide from a
13 humanitarian standpoint, as well as economically and financially, with the potential for impacts from nuclear
14 radiation beyond the disaster zone in Japan; and

15 WHEREAS, since 1982 the State of Montana has had a sister state relationship with Kumamoto
16 Prefecture, which is located on one of the southern Japanese islands and was not in the immediate disaster zone
17 but was not unaffected by the triple tragedy of earthquakes, tsunami, and nuclear power plant instability; and

18 WHEREAS, the late Mike Mansfield, a former Butte miner, University of Montana professor of Latin
19 American and Far East studies, the longest serving U.S. Senate Majority Leader, and for 11 years the U.S.
20 Ambassador to Japan called the U.S.-Japanese relationship "the most important bilateral relationship in the world,
21 bar none"; and

22 WHEREAS, student exchanges between Japanese and Montana high schools and universities, as well
23 as Friendship Force exchanges and overseas trade missions assisted by the State of Montana's trade office in
24 Japan, have helped to promote mutual understanding, friendship, tourism, and markets for Montana's agricultural
25 and other goods; and

26 WHEREAS, Montana recognizes the efforts of international groups providing humanitarian assistance
27 to the people of Japan, including the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination team that is aiding
28 the international Urban Search and Rescue teams working in Japan and assisting the government of Japan in
29 assessing environmental hazards.

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

3 That the Montana Legislature on behalf of Montanans here and abroad extend deepest condolences to
4 the people of Japan and especially to the people in the Sendai region most affected by the earthquakes, tsunami,
5 and nuclear disasters.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States,
7 U.S. Ambassador to Japan John Roos, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
8 United States House of Representatives, and Montana's Congressional Delegation encouraging them to support
9 the work of the international community in aiding Japan in this recent disaster and to provide as much critical
10 assistance to the Japanese people as is feasible in this difficult time.

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