

1 _____ JOINT RESOLUTION NO. _____

2 INTRODUCED BY _____
3 (Primary Sponsor)

4 BY REQUEST OF THE STATE-TRIBAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

5
6 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
7 MONTANA URGING CONGRESS TO ALLOCATE A PORTION OF FEDERAL EXCISE TAXES FOR TRIBAL
8 WILDLIFE AND FISH MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS.

9
10 WHEREAS, tribal and nontribal recreationists of Montana, whether on or off of reservations, pay federal
11 excise taxes on sporting goods; and

12 WHEREAS, a portion of these federal excise taxes is apportioned to the state to be administered by the
13 Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks and is earmarked for purposes of wildlife and fish management in
14 Montana; and

15 WHEREAS, the distribution of funds from the total apportionment is based on a formulated percentage,
16 factoring in licensed resource users, demographic population, land base, and water area, including tribal
17 populations, lands, and waters, yet none of these funds are currently apportioned to tribal governments; and

18 WHEREAS, the various tribal governments of Montana also maintain programs of wildlife and fish
19 management that benefit the state wildlife and fish resources, and wildlife and fish management on reservations
20 could be enhanced if Montana tribes were to receive part of the tax revenue for tribal management programs;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, as a matter of equity, Montana tribes are entitled to a portion of the federal excise tax
23 revenue on sporting goods for tribal wildlife and fish management programs.

24
25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
26 STATE OF MONTANA:

27 (1) That the United States Congress pass legislation that would allocate a portion of federal excise taxes
28 for tribal wildlife and fish management programs in the same manner that the taxes are allocated to the states.

29 (2) That the Secretary of State send copies of this resolution to the Montana Congressional Delegation,
30 the Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, and to each tribal government located on the seven Montana



1 reservations and to the Little Shell Chippewa tribe.

2 - END -