

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27  
INTRODUCED BY C. LAMBERT

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM LEGISLATIVE STUDY OF CONTROLLING THE PRAIRIE DOG POPULATION ON PUBLIC LANDS.

WHEREAS, it is the duty of government to ensure management of its land and the species contained on the land in a matter so as to have no deleterious effect toward adjoining private land; and

WHEREAS, the *Cynomys leucurus*, commonly called the prairie dog, can do tremendous damage to land and livestock when not controlled through proved population control methods.

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

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

(1) to study the issue of population control of prairie dogs on public lands, including federal lands, to determine the impact to private landowners, agricultural interests, livestock owners, and the general public; and

(2) to identify areas for improvement in the control of the prairie dog population on public lands to determine policy solutions through state law, state and federal agreements, and public/private partnerships.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the study is assigned to staff, any findings or conclusions be presented to and reviewed by an appropriate committee designated by the Legislative Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentations and review requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2008.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions, comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 61st Legislature.

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