

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 28  
INTRODUCED BY J. COHENOUR

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF BUSINESSES INFRASTRUCTURE IN MONTANA AS IT RELATES TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES.

WHEREAS, Montana is a part of the global marketplace as technology bridges the divide between local businesses and the vibrant national economy and the world; and

WHEREAS, it is the innovation and initiative of entrepreneurs in the private sector that drive our economy and provide for the quality of life that Americans enjoy; and

WHEREAS, even the most recent invention or well-crafted business plan needs an infrastructure in which to prosper.

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 analyze and study the state of "business infrastructure" in Montana, including:

(a) traditional land and air transportation systems, both internal to the state and with adjoining states, to determine feasibility for movement of merchandise manufactured within Montana and materials needed by existing and potential businesses in the state;

(b) communication and technological systems, including but not limited to traditional and cell phone coverage, Internet and wireless access, and teleconferencing, both statewide and at a microlevel in each of Montana's urban centers; and

(c) current and potential businesses designed to assist entrepreneurship and provide logistical support to small businesses, including but not limited to office parks designed for shared usage of administrative support; computers, technology, and meeting space; firms designed to allow for outsourcing of human resources, payroll, and accounting functions; and printing and shipping functions;

(2) to identify areas in which legislatively initiated programs in other states have addressed the development of any business infrastructure components listed in subsection (1), to be viewed by leaders in the

businesses community and included in subsequent public policy considerations.

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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