

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 54  
INTRODUCED BY J. WINDY BOY

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY TO INVESTIGATE THE TRANSFERABILITY OF CREDITS FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO COLLEGE AND THE TRANSFERABILITY OF CREDITS AMONG ALL ACCREDITED PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN MONTANA.

WHEREAS, greater transferability of college credits will help Montana address its ever-growing need for a skilled workforce; and

WHEREAS, greater transferability of college credits improves the access to and affordability of higher education; and

WHEREAS, greater transferability of college credits is important because it saves students time and money and promotes a seamless relationship among the public and tribal institutions of higher education in Montana; and

WHEREAS, a high school student who is enrolled in college courses can transition more easily into higher education.

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, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to:

(1) study the transferability of credits from high school to college and the transferability of credits among all accredited public institutions of higher education in Montana, including all 4-year and 2-year colleges and universities, colleges of technology, and community colleges within the Montana University System and Montana's seven tribal colleges;

(2) investigate opportunities to encourage high school students to take and receive credit for college classes; and

(3) identify obstacles to, and potential legislative remedies for, improving the transferability of credits from high school to college and the transferability of credits among all accredited public institutions of higher education in Montana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education and tribal college presidents be provided the results of this interim study for their long-range educational planning.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State be provided and send a copy of the study to each tribal government located on the seven Montana reservations and to the Little Shell band of Chippewa.

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 presentation 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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