

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 60  
INTRODUCED BY S. DICKENSON

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY ON ISSUES RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE, INCLUDING A REVIEW OF THE FINDINGS OF THE MONTANA CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

WHEREAS, climate change impacts the economic well-being, public health, natural resources, and environment of Montana; and

WHEREAS, climate change may have detrimental effects on some of Montana's largest industries, including agriculture, forestry, tourism, electricity production from hydroelectric facilities, and recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Climate Change Advisory Committee will release a final climate report in the summer of 2007 with proposals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, taking into consideration opportunities to save money, conserve energy, and bolster the Montana economy; and

WHEREAS, federal, state, and local governments are recognizing impacts from climate change and are taking actions at the federal, regional, state, and local levels to redress the effects of greenhouse gases on the climate; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Legislature should play a vital role in examining the findings of the Montana Climate Change Advisory Committee and crafting proposed legislation related to climate change.

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) review existing federal and state regulations relevant to greenhouse gas emissions, energy efficiency, renewable energy, and tax incentives;
- (2) examine peer-reviewed publications of existing information regarding climate change;
- (3) examine national and state efforts to address climate change, particularly the report produced by the Montana Climate Change Advisory Committee;
- (4) review the inventory of sources and volumes of carbon produced in Montana provided by the

Montana Climate Change Advisory Committee;

(5) analyze the climate change legislation considered by the 2007 Montana Legislature and the climate change report provided to the Governor of Montana by the Montana Climate Change Advisory Committee; and

(6) examine other issues determined by the interim committee to be relevant to the purpose of the study.

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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