

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 26
INTRODUCED BY R. LAIBLE

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY ON THE LAWS RELATING TO ZONING AND LAND USE PLANNING.

WHEREAS, zoning regulations must be made in accordance with growth policies or master plans and, as nearly as possible, must be compatible with the zoning ordinances of a municipality within a jurisdictional area; and

WHEREAS, the procedures for adopting growth policies, zoning ordinances, and subdivision regulations vary and have led to confusion about zoning regulations; and

WHEREAS, a lack of consistent zoning regulations has led to increased conflicts between urban and rural lifestyles in rapidly growing areas.

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 review existing zoning statutes that guide both citizen-petition initiated and countywide zoning and determine whether changes are needed to create a more concise process for each.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee determine if an amalgam of the citizen-petition initiated and countywide zoning processes could reduce conflicts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee examine areas in which the Montana Subdivision and Platting Act overlaps with zoning regulations and examine areas of overlap that need to be clarified.

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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