

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 28
INTRODUCED BY J. PETERSON

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY TO EVALUATE METHODS FOR INCREASING RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE RECOVERY WITHIN THE STATE OF MONTANA.

WHEREAS, increased recycling rates will provide substantial economic and environmental benefits to Montanans; and

WHEREAS, recycling is a value-added manufacturing process that provides jobs for Montanans; and

WHEREAS, recycling reduces energy consumption associated with the manufacturing of products from raw materials and reduces landfill usage by diverting solid waste; and

WHEREAS, rural areas have a need for infrastructure support to increase recycling; and

WHEREAS, electronic waste and household hazardous waste present unique recycling challenges that may require additional programs; and

WHEREAS, the Montana's Climate Change Advisory Council proposed increasing Montana solid waste recycling rates to 17% by 2008, 22% by 2011, 25% by 2015, and 28% by 2020 using a variety of methods, including source reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Quality Council, in conducting a climate change interim study during the 2007-08 interim, identified the enhancement of solid waste recovery and recycling in Montana as a potentially important policy directive.

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) evaluate and propose potential methods for increasing the recycling rates in the state of Montana;
- (2) analyze methods to promote market development of recycled materials;
- (3) analyze options to address rural recycling challenges;
- (4) propose programs to address electronic and household hazardous waste; and
- (5) evaluate funding alternatives.

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, 2010.

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 62nd Legislature.

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