

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 24

INTRODUCED BY M. CUFFE

BY REQUEST OF THE HOUSE JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND TRANSPORTATION

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA TO STUDY COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH RENTAL CONTRACTS FOR OFFICE SPACE AND OTHER FACILITIES USED BY THE STATE.

WHEREAS, the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural Resources and Transportation needed information about rental costs paid by the state, including the actual rental rate, maintenance and janitorial expenses, upgrades to a rented facility, and any other contract expenses related to the rented facility; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Administration does not collect certain data and the Subcommittee was unable to collect and examine the available data due to the time constraints of the budget process; and

WHEREAS, the Subcommittee was unable to gather the needed data from other sources but would find that data useful in future sessions for its budget work.

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 study rental costs associated with state contracts for office space and other facilities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study:

(1) examine what data the Department of Administration has related to rental costs associated with contracts for office space and other facilities used by the state;

(2) examine any contracts the state has for rental space to determine what terms the contracts cover that are related to expenses;

(3) analyze what costs are included in rental contracts, including but not limited to the fixed costs of renting the space, janitorial and maintenance expenses, and any expenses to upgrade the facility that were paid



1 by the state or included in the fixed cost of the rental;

2 (4) determine what data is needed but not collected by the state in order to determine actual costs paid
3 by the state for the rental and the growth rates of expenses related to rental contracts and to compare rental costs
4 between state agencies; and

5 (5) develop conclusions to inform future Legislatures about what data is available and what data is
6 needed concerning the expenses the state pays related to rental contracts.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the study is assigned to staff, any findings or conclusions be
8 presented to and reviewed by an appropriate committee designated by the Legislative Council.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review
10 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2014.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,
12 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 64th Legislature.

13 - END -