

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13

INTRODUCED BY T. BROWN

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A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM TO STUDY AND ADOPT GOALS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES DIRECTED AT INCREASING COLLEGE COMPLETION RATES; REQUESTING THAT THE MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM WORK WITH THE GOVERNOR; PROVIDING THE PERFORMANCE MEASURES TO BE STUDIED; AND REQUESTING THAT REPORTS BE PROVIDED TO THE 64TH LEGISLATURE, THE GOVERNOR, AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS.

WHEREAS, less than half of the students nationally who enter a 4-year university, and even fewer who enter a 2-year college, finish with a degree or credential; and

WHEREAS, 60% of students entering 2-year colleges and 25% of students entering open-admissions universities are placed in some type of remedial education; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Legislature and the Montana University System agree on the importance of studying and reporting common measures of progress using consistent data; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Legislature and the Montana University System share a uniform desire to set and attain state completion goals that focus on significantly increasing the number of students that successfully complete college, with credentials that have value in the workplace.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Montana University System be requested to work in conjunction with the Governor to study and adopt a universal set of goals and performance measures directed at increasing college completion rates.

Measures to be studied include:

- (1) outcome and progress metrics in degree production;
- (2) graduation rates;
- (3) transfer rates;
- (4) time to complete a degree;
- (5) enrollment in remedial education;



1 (6) success in remedial education;

2 (7) credit accumulation;

3 (8) retention rates; and

4 (9) course completion rates.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana University System be requested to set specific goals
6 by July 1, 2014, to increase college completion rates and develop a state action plan for increasing completion
7 rates.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the data on which the study is based be collected in a manner that
9 allows for comparisons across states and across institutions of higher education.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana University System report to the 64th Legislature, the
11 Governor, and the Board of Regents on its progress in establishing the goals and the action plan and on the data
12 gathered regarding the performance measures.

13 - END -