

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 26

INTRODUCED BY E. ARNTZEN

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A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF THE TRANSPORTING OF OVERSIZE LOADS THROUGH MONTANA.

WHEREAS, there are many compelling reasons to establish a predictable, timely, and cost-effective process that will allow numerous manufacturing firms, contractors, motor carriers, and others involved in commerce, both within and outside the state of Montana, to efficiently and in a cost-effective manner transport oversize and other loads through Montana; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature is committed to fostering the economic activity generated by transporting the loads, with substantial benefits accruing to Montana workers, small businesses, and local communities; and

WHEREAS, there are compelling reasons to reduce project costs and expedite the movement of people and goods by eliminating delays, reducing regulatory burdens, improving agencies' work practices, lowering costs, and accelerating completion of transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, Montana has an obligation to improve its portion and the whole of the national freight network, strengthen the ability of communities to access national and international trade markets, and support economic development; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with other states and federal transportation authorities, Montana is committed to fostering actions that do not result in significant environmental impacts and, therefore, expediting the review processes and project delivery in furtherance of the objectives envisioned by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, Public Law 112-141, commonly referred to as MAP-21.

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, to identify:

- (1) any impediments in Montana law that preclude or discourage transporting oversize loads through the state; and



