1   HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27

2   INTRODUCED BY B. TSCHIDA

3

4   A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF

5   MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY ON STATUTORY APPROPRIATIONS AND REQUIRING THAT

6   THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 65TH LEGISLATURE.

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8   WHEREAS, the state of Montana currently has 100 statutes that provide for a statutory appropriation in

9   state law; and

10   WHEREAS, the amount of funds from the general fund spent through statutory appropriations is

11 approximately $540 million each biennium; and

12   WHEREAS, the public policy role of the legislature regarding the costs of state government includes

13 establishing and understanding the components of statutory appropriations and their impact on total expenditures

14 of the state of Montana.

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16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE

17 STATE OF MONTANA:

18   That the legislative finance committee, in consultation with the legislative council, be requested to study

19 or direct sufficient staff resources to:

20   (1) study what a statutory appropriation is and how one is established;

21   (2) identify statutory appropriations that do not meet the conditions set forth in 17-1-508(2), MCA.

22   (3) determine if programs that are funded by a statutory appropriation are more successful than those

23 that are funded through the general appropriations act; and

24   (4) identify or recommend potential future legislation, if necessary.

25   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the study is assigned to staff, any findings or conclusions be

26 presented to and reviewed by the legislative finance committee.

27   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review

28 requirements, be concluding by September 15, 2016.

29   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,

30 comments, or recommendations of the legislative finance committee, be reported to the 65th legislature.

31   - END -