64th Legislature

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1	SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10
2	INTRODUCED BY L. JONES
3	
4	A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5	MONTANA REQUESTING THAT THE LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE PRIORITIZE A PERFORMANCE
6	AUDIT OF THE SCHOOL DATA COLLECTION SYSTEMS AND PROCEDURES OF THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC
7	INSTRUCTION AND THAT THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR PRESENT FINDINGS FROM THE PERFORMANCE
8	AUDIT TO THE 65TH LEGISLATURE.
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10	WHEREAS, it is the superintendent of public instruction's duty pursuant to 20-3-105 to "faithfully wor
11	in all practical and possible ways for the welfare of the public schools of the state"; and
12	WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Legislature in providing a basic system of free quality public elementar
13	and secondary schools that the statewide data system administered by the office of public instruction support
14	"the collection of data from schools through a process that provides for automated conversion of data from
15	systems already in use by school districts or the office of public instruction and that resolves the repetition of data
16	entry and redundancy of data requested that has been characteristic of the data system in the past and that
17	otherwise reduces the diversion of district staff time away from instruction and supervision", as emphasized in
18	20-7-104; and
19	WHEREAS, 20-7-104 also requires that the "superintendent of public instruction shall continually wor
20	in consultation with the K-12 data task force provided for in 20-7-105 to analyze the best options for a statewide
21	data system"; and
22	WHEREAS, the K-12 data task force has met only once during the biennium since its creation; and
23	WHEREAS, schools are reporting that the burdens of adhering to the data collection requirements of the
24	office of public instruction are taking time away from instruction and impeding the ability of schools to develop the
25	full educational potential of their students; AND
26	WHEREAS, COLLECTION OF STUDENT AND FAMILY INFORMATION SHOULD RESPECT AND MAINTAIN THE PRIVAC
27	OF THE STUDENT AND THE FAMILY.
28	
29	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
30	STATE OF MONTANA:
	Legislative Services -1 - Division

64th Legislature

1 That the Legislative Audit Committee prioritize a performance audit of the school data collection systems 2 and procedures of the office of public instruction, and that as part of the performance audit, the Legislative 3 Auditor: (1) review the history of efforts to improve the efficiency of data collection from Montana schools; 4 5 (2) investigate the data collection systems of other states to determine whether Montana is adhering to 6 generally accepted best practices for data collection; and 7 (3) present findings from the performance audit in a readily accessible format for use by the Legislature 8 and any interested parties; AND 9 (4) ASSESS WHETHER THE DATA COLLECTION AND SHARING METHODS AND PRACTICES MAINTAIN THE INDIVIDUAL 10 PRIVACY OF STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES. 11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the performance audit including any findings, 12 conclusions, comments, or recommendations be reported to the 65th Legislature.

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