

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27

INTRODUCED BY D. KARY

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A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM LEGISLATIVE STUDY ON THE OFFICIAL DESIGNATION AND RECOGNITION OF VETERANS' MEMORIALS ON STATE MAPS.

WHEREAS, Title 1, chapter 1, part 1, of the Montana Code Annotated contains provisions designating state symbols and official designations;

WHEREAS, the official designations include several provisions designating certain veterans' memorials in certain cities for recognition on official state maps; and

WHEREAS, many other cities and towns across Montana have veterans' memorials that could be designated on official state maps; and

WHEREAS, some highways in Montana have also been designated to memorialize the service and sacrifices of our military veterans; and

WHEREAS, the process to date for designating some of these memorials as official memorials to be recognized on official state maps has required that individual legislative proposals be brought one at a time; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive list of veterans' memorials and a consistent and inclusive methodology for officially designating veterans' memorials and for ensuring the locations of these memorials are shown on official maps are desirable; and

WHEREAS, current technology may offer innovative ways to identify veterans' memorials on state maps, such as Internet links to special maps or maps that include coding that may be scanned to reveal additional information about veterans' memorials in Montana; and

WHEREAS, an interim legislative study would provide a means by which veterans' memorial information may be gathered and examined, innovative technology may be considered, and comprehensive and consistent procedures may be established for official recognition of veterans' memorials on state maps.

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



1 section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to:

2 (1) solicit information about and develop an inventory of veterans' memorials across the state of
3 Montana, including memorial highways;

4 (2) review current practices with respect to how veterans' memorials are designated for the purposes
5 of being shown on maps produced by the Montana Department of Transportation and the Montana Department
6 of Commerce;

7 (3) investigate how technology may be leveraged to provide quick and easy access to information about
8 veterans' memorials in Montana; and

9 (4) analyze options and develop recommendations to establish comprehensive and consistent
10 procedures for designating veterans' memorials on official state maps.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that veterans' organizations, the Department of Transportation, the
12 Department of Commerce, the Montana Board of Veterans' Affairs, the state Chamber of Commerce and local
13 chambers of commerce, and other stakeholders, interested organizations, and interested persons be consulted
14 and included in the study.

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

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review
18 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2016.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,
20 comments, or recommendations, including any proposed legislation, of the appropriate committee be reported
21 to the 65th Legislature.

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