

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 32

INTRODUCED BY M. DUNWELL

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND ATTENDANCE, CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM, AND TRUANCY IN THE K-12 EDUCATION SYSTEM; AND REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 66TH LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, the Montana Constitution was ordained and established based on the desire to improve the quality of life, equality of opportunity, and to secure the blessings of liberty for this and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Constitution enshrined as a goal of the people the establishment of a system of education that develops the full educational potential of each person; and

WHEREAS, the future of Montana depends on students in our schools developing their educational potential, achieving highly, and graduating; and

WHEREAS, improved attendance rates have been proven to directly impact student achievement and graduation rates; and

WHEREAS, states are now required under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act to report chronic absenteeism in schools and federal resources may be available to address chronic absenteeism; and

WHEREAS, strategies for addressing chronic absenteeism and truancy are evolving at the classroom, school, district, and state policy levels.

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 study the relationship between student achievement and attendance, chronic absenteeism, and truancy in the K-12 education system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study:

- (1) work in collaboration with the Board of Public Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and school district trustees and involve input from teachers, administrators, parents, and students;



