

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 21

INTRODUCED BY F. MANDEVILLE, J. BACHMEIER, M. BLASDEL, R. LYNCH, C. SCHREINER

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING A STUDY OF FANTASY SPORTS, INCLUDING ONLINE FANTASY SPORTS AND GAMBLING; AND REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 66TH LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, there is a question as to whether Montana gambling laws related to participation in certain online fantasy sports constitutes illegal gambling; and

WHEREAS, the current statutory scheme legalizing fantasy sports is in need of review; and

WHEREAS, in the past two legislative sessions, there have been introduced bills relating to fantasy sports; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Legislature anticipates that fantasy sports, including online fantasy sports, will continue to be at issue in this state.

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 examine:

(1) fantasy sports, including:

(a) participation, to the extent that it can be determined, including participation through parimutuel betting facilities in Title 23, chapter 4;

(b) prizes and rewards offered;

(c) fees charged or bets taken; and

(d) a review of studies related to societal impacts of participation among various sports and age ranges;

(2) applicable gambling laws, INCLUDING TAXATION, in other states and parimutuel laws in this state that apply to online fantasy sports; and

(3) solutions to clarify Montana law relating to fantasy sports, including overhaul of fantasy sports laws in Title 23.



