

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4

INTRODUCED BY M. MACDONALD

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A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY TO EVALUATE THE OPERATION OF CROSSROADS CORRECTIONAL CENTER IN SHELBY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS' OVERSIGHT OF THE FACILITY; AND REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 66TH LEGISLATURE.

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 operation of the Crossroads Correctional Center in Shelby and the Department of Corrections' oversight of the facility to determine if changes should be made to laws governing private prisons and the oversight of contracts with private prison contractors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study review:

(1) the statutes, administrative rules, and Department of Corrections' policies and procedures that govern the establishment and operation of private prisons in Montana as well as any relevant best practices or national standards that are set for the operation of prisons;

(2) how contracts for private prisons in Montana are established, revised, and monitored, including an in-depth review of the current licensing instrument and the contract oversight instrument used by the Department to license private prisons and to evaluate the compliance of the Corrections Corporation of America with the contract provisions;

(3) how Crossroads Correctional Center's policies and procedures compare to those at the state-operated Montana State Prison;

(4) the history of any contract violations and fines imposed by the Department;

(5) issues that have been raised in public comment, including:

- (a) how inmates are placed at the facility;
- (b) how medical care is provided to inmates;
- (c) the operation and oversight of the inmate welfare fund; and



- 1 (d) the vocational, educational, recreational, and treatment opportunities available to inmates; and
2 (6) other items identified by the interim committee.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee evaluate the costs, benefits, and challenges of
4 operating and overseeing private prisons compared to the costs, benefits, and challenges of operating state-run
5 prisons.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the interim committee visit the Crossroads Correctional Center as
7 part of the study.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study involve stakeholders, including the Department of
9 Corrections, Corrections Corporation of America officials, representatives of local communities, representatives
10 of crime victims and their families, representatives of offenders and their families, and other interested parties.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review
12 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2018.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,
14 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 66th Legislature.

15 - END -