



A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING CONGRESS TO REAUTHORIZE FUNDING FOR RECLAMATION OF ABANDONED MINE LANDS.

WHEREAS, the 109th Congress in 2006 passed amendments to the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to sunset funding for abandoned mine land reclamation programs in Montana and the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Abandoned Mine Lands Program and the Crow Tribe Abandoned Mine Land Program protect Montana citizens and the environment by successfully reclaiming historic abandoned mines; and

WHEREAS, funding for abandoned mine reclamation programs expires September 30, 2021 meaning programs in Montana would no longer have money to reclaim historic abandoned mines; and

WHEREAS, in Montana, 6,500 mines with an unfunded liability of more than \$130 million would benefit from continued funding of the program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Montana Legislature supports continued funding for the reclamation of abandoned mine lands beyond the September 30, 2021, date set by the United States Congress.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the United States Congress should reauthorize funding for the reclamation of abandoned mine lands before the 2021 expiration date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send copies of this resolution to the Montana Congressional Delegation, the United States Secretary of the Interior, and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

- END -

I hereby certify that the within joint resolution,  
SJ 0004, originated in the Senate.

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President of the Senate

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4

INTRODUCED BY J. SESSO

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