

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 16

2 INTRODUCED BY N. DURAM, B. LER, K. SEEKINS-CROWE

3
 4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
 5 MONTANA URGING THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION TO ALLOW ~~NORTHWEST~~
 6 MONTANA RESIDENTS TO BE CLASSIFIED IN THE DIRECT MARKETING AREAS OF MONTANA
 7 TELEVISION NEWS NETWORKS.

8
 9 WHEREAS, many northwest Montana residents reside in the direct marketing area of Spokane
 10 television news stations that preclude them from receiving relevant coverage from Montana news networks;
 11 and

12 WHEREAS, MONTANA RESIDENTS OF RICHLAND COUNTY AND WIBAUX COUNTY WHO WOULD CHOOSE TO GET
 13 THEIR TELEVISION NEWS FROM BILLINGS, MONTANA, SOURCES ARE LOCATED IN THE NORTH DAKOTA DIRECT
 14 MARKETING AREA AND SHOULD ALSO HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO FOLLOW MONTANA NEWS; AND

15 WHEREAS, many Lincoln County residents, including the Lincoln County Commission, would prefer
 16 television news from Montana networks; and

17 WHEREAS, northwest Montana residents live in the Mountain Time Zone, while Spokane news
 18 networks broadcast from the Pacific Time Zone; and

19 WHEREAS, these residents are concerned with local Montana news, weather, and sports rather than
 20 Washington state's news; and

21 WHEREAS, Montanans have a strong tradition of watching the evening news as a family, but without
 22 relevant Montana news stations, they often rely on the local newspaper in ~~the northwest~~ THEIR regions of the
 23 state.

24
 25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
 26 THE STATE OF MONTANA:

27 (1) That the Federal Communications Commission be urged to ~~exclude~~ INCLUDE Montana
 28 communities ~~from the Spokane~~ IN THE APPROPRIATE direct marketing area to allow for Montanans to receive

1 their local television news.

2 (2) That the Secretary of State send a copy of this resolution to the Federal Communications

3 Commission and to each member of the Montana Congressional Delegation.

4 - END -