



A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA PROVIDING FOR AN INTERIM STUDY OF BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PATHS.

WHEREAS, residents and tourists are attracted to lifelong activities including bicycling and walking; and

WHEREAS, a 2015 survey of Montana residents indicates that 46% of respondents bicycled in the previous year, 48% of bicycling was on paved paths, and only 13% of respondents felt "somewhat safe" or "very safe" when bicycling; and

WHEREAS, bicyclists are utilizing a legal, valid, and recognized mode of transportation and have defined responsibilities and considerations, including a higher need for protection and accommodating infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, bicycle and pedestrian paths are often situated in the rights of way of county and municipal roadways maintained by the Montana Department of Transportation, and funding for maintenance of the paths lacks coordination and alignment; and

WHEREAS, the State of Montana has instituted fee-for-use systems, including activities on Department of Natural Resources and Conservation lands, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks sites, state highways, and snowmobile trails for maintenance and construction of trails.

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 bicycle and pedestrian paths, including:

- (1) the purposes for which bicycle and pedestrian paths are used, including but not limited to transportation, recreation, and tourism;
- (2) safety implications related to bicycle and pedestrian paths;
- (3) economic impacts of bicycle and pedestrian paths;
- (4) current levels of funding for bicycle and pedestrian paths provided by the state and local governments;

(5) consideration of funding options; and

(6) how other states and adjacent provinces establish, fund, and manage bicycle and pedestrian paths.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions, comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 67th Legislature.

- END -

I hereby certify that the within joint resolution,
HJ 0045, originated in the House.

Speaker of the House

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2019.

Chief Clerk of the House

President of the Senate

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2019.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 45

INTRODUCED BY D. LOGE, D. FERN

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA PROVIDING FOR AN INTERIM STUDY OF BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PATHS.