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**** JOINT RESOLUTION NO. ****
INTRODUCED BY ****
BY REQUEST OF THE ****

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF MISSING YOUTH.

WHEREAS, 80% of all missing persons in Montana are youth under age 18.

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 or statutory committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to examine the issue of missing youth for the purpose of determining how the state of Montana can reduce the number of missing youth and increase the chances of quickly locating missing youth.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the interim committee:

- (1) collaborate with the department of justice and the missing persons specialist, the office of public instruction, the department of public health and human services, the missing indigenous persons task force, the missing indigenous persons review commission, tribal governments, and youth organizations in examining this issue;
- (2) gather information about missing youth cases and reasons that youth are reported missing;
- (3) utilize data from the youth risk behavior survey;
- (4) analyze rates and data of missing youth among specific subgroups including but not limited to indigenous youth and youth in foster care;
- (5) examine efforts made by other states and jurisdictions to reduce the number of youth reported missing and decrease the amount of time for missing youth to be located and determine whether these approaches warrant adoption in Montana.

Unofficial Draft Copy

As of: 2022/08/31 01:48:38

Drafter: Pad McCracken, 406-444-3595

67th Legislature

PD 0038

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the study is assigned to staff, any findings or conclusions be
2 presented to and reviewed by an appropriate committee designated by the Legislative Council.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review
4 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2024.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,
6 comments or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 69th Legislature.

7

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- END -

DRAFT