

## 1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27

2 INTRODUCED BY K. SULLIVAN, R. MINER, J. BERGSTROM, P. GREEN

3  
4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF  
5 MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF AGRICULTURAL DATA COLLECTION AND USE; AND  
6 REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 69TH LEGISLATURE.

7  
8 WHEREAS, agricultural data is collected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and is guarded from  
9 resale or use of the data to influence commodity markets; and

10 WHEREAS, agricultural equipment manufacturers and precision agricultural system developers collect  
11 the same data as the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and may use it for commercial purposes without benefit to  
12 the individual farmers, ranchers, the State of Montana, or the U.S. Department of Agriculture; and

13 WHEREAS, farmers and ranchers cannot currently opt out of data collection procedures that result in  
14 the commercial sale, resale, exchange, bailment, or transfer of the customer's data; and

15 WHEREAS, agricultural data is commercially valuable; and

16 WHEREAS, Montana citizens may be providing a commercial value and receiving no tangible benefit.

17  
18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
19 THE STATE OF MONTANA:

20 That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee or statutory  
21 committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to examine the issue of  
22 agricultural data collection and use for the purpose of determining how the State of Montana can protect the  
23 data property rights of farmers and ranchers.

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

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

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,

1 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 69th Legislature.

2 - END -