

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 26

Introduced by Peck, et al.

2/08	Introduced
2/08	Referred to Education & Cultural Resources
2/09	First Reading
2/22	Hearing
2/23	Committee Report--Bill Passed Died in Process

1 *House* JOINT RESOLUTION NO. *26* *Bob Papinek*
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Pack* *Wagner* *Al* *Ream* *Spies*
 3 *Stuber* *Boyd* *Bob Spies* *John Hansen*
 4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF *Connell*
 5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE BOARD OF *Boyer*
 6 REGENTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO POSTPONE AND TO STUDY FURTHER *Wolf*
 7 THE CONVERSION OF CERTAIN UNITS OF THE MONTANA UNIVERSITY
 8 SYSTEM TO A SEMESTER ACADEMIC SYSTEM.

9
 10 WHEREAS, in 1987, the Board of Regents of Higher
 11 Education ordered four units of the Montana University
 12 System, the University of Montana, Montana State University,
 13 Northern Montana College, and Eastern Montana College, to
 14 convert from the present quarter academic system to a
 15 semester academic system by July 1, 1992; and

16 WHEREAS, the faculty and staff of the affected units of
 17 higher education have studied and revised the curricula of
 18 the units and found that the semester organization of
 19 classes and programs is significantly less desirable than
 20 the quarter system; and

21 WHEREAS, students and faculty in the affected units of
 22 higher education have voted unfavorably on the question of
 23 the conversion, and the public has expressed concerns about
 24 the conversion to the semester academic system to many
 25 educational and political leaders; and

1 WHEREAS, in December 1987, the presidents of the
 2 affected units of the University System expressed their
 3 opposition to the conversion to the semester academic
 4 system; and

5 WHEREAS, the costs of undergraduate instruction may
 6 dramatically increase at most units under the conversion to
 7 a semester academic system; and

8 WHEREAS, the curricular and administrative flexibility
 9 in the affected units will decrease by at least one-third
 10 under the conversion to a semester academic system and will
 11 result in constraints on the University System's ability to
 12 serve the postsecondary educational needs of the State of
 13 Montana; and

14 WHEREAS, the Certification Standards and Practices
 15 Advisory Council of the Montana Board of Public Education
 16 has expressed serious concern about possible adverse effects
 17 on the quality of teacher preparation programs resulting
 18 from conversion to a semester academic system.

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

22 That the Board of Regents of Higher Education postpone
 23 implementation of the semester academic schedule for at
 24 least 1 year.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents of



LC 1838/01

1 Higher Education hold public hearings on semester conversion
2 wherever units of the Montana University System are located.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents of
4 Higher Education include the community colleges and
5 vocational-technical centers in their consideration of
6 issues regarding conversion to a semester academic schedule.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMM. ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

1 *HOUSE* JOINT RESOLUTION NO. *26* *Bob Pippinich*
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Peck* *Johnson* *Ream*
 3 *Amthur* *Boyd* *Bob Pippinich* *Stella Jensen Hansen*
 4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF *Connelly*
 5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE BOARD OF *Wolf*
 6 REGENTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO POSTPONE AND TO STUDY FURTHER
 7 THE CONVERSION OF CERTAIN UNITS OF THE MONTANA UNIVERSITY
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-2- SECOND READING
 HJR 26

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