

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 56

INTRODUCED BY RUSSELL, GERVAIS, D. BROWN, J. RICE,
STICKNEY, STRIZICH, CODY, DARKO, MESSMORE, BECKER,
L. NELSON, LEE, MEASURE, BROOKE

IN THE HOUSE

APRIL 22, 1991 INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE
ON JUDICIARY.

 FIRST READING.

APRIL 23, 1991 COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL
DO PASS. REPORT ADOPTED.

 PRINTING REPORT.

 ON MOTION, ADDITIONAL SPONSORS ADDED.

APRIL 24, 1991 SECOND READING, DO PASS.

 ENGROSSING REPORT.

 ON MOTION, RULES SUSPENDED. BILL
PLACED ON THIRD READING THIS DAY.

 THIRD READING, PASSED.
AYES, 80; NOES, 20.

 TRANSMITTED TO SENATE.

IN THE SENATE

APRIL 24, 1991 INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE
ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, & SAFETY.

 FIRST READING.

APRIL 25, 1991 COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL BE
CONCURRED IN. REPORT ADOPTED.

 SECOND READING, CONCURRED IN.

APRIL 29, 1991 THIRD READING, CONCURRED IN.
AYES, 37; NOES, 11.

 RETURNED TO HOUSE.

IN THE HOUSE

APRIL 29, 1991

RECEIVED FROM SENATE.

SENT TO ENROLLING.

REPORTED CORRECTLY ENROLLED.

1 *House* JOINT RESOLUTION NO. *56*
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Russell Gervais Dave Brown John*
 3 *Johnson Marko Missner Becker*
 4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
 5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA DIRECTING THE
 6 COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON
 7 DISPARITIES IN SENTENCING OF NATIVE AMERICANS.
 8
 9 WHEREAS, in 1987, approximately 17% of all prison
 10 inmates under state or federal jurisdiction in Montana were
 11 Native Americans; and
 12 WHEREAS, Native Americans account for only 6% of the
 13 total population in Montana; and
 14 WHEREAS, these statistics show that Native Americans are
 15 disproportionately represented in the Montana inmate
 16 population; and
 17 WHEREAS, the disproportionate representation of Native
 18 Americans in the inmate population raises questions
 19 concerning the sentencing of Native Americans in this state;
 20 and
 21 WHEREAS, national studies have documented racial
 22 disparities in sentencing and the time served by minorities
 23 who are sentenced to prison.
 24
 25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE

1 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
 2 That the Committee on Indian Affairs conduct a study on
 3 disparities in sentencing of Native Americans.
 4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in conducting its study,
 5 the Committee on Indian Affairs:
 6 (1) collect and analyze data on sentencing of Native
 7 Americans in Montana;
 8 (2) examine the reasons for any disparities in
 9 sentencing of Native Americans; and
 10 (3) make recommendations for eliminating or reducing
 11 any disparities in sentencing of Native Americans in this
 12 state.
 13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee report its
 14 findings and recommendations to the 53rd Legislature and, if
 15 appropriate, prepare legislation to implement its
 16 recommendations.
 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Bar
 18 Association, the University of Montana Law School, and the
 19 Department of Institutions assist and cooperate with the
 20 Committee on Indian Affairs in conducting the study called
 21 for by this resolution.

-End-



INTRODUCED BILL
 HJR 56

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

1 *House* JOINT RESOLUTION NO. *56*
2 INTRODUCED BY *Timothy Lewis Dave Brown John*
3 *John Nelson* *Stacy Marko Missure Becker*
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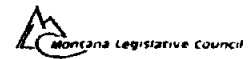
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- 7 Americans in Montana;
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SECOND READING
HJR 56

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 56

INTRODUCED BY RUSSELL, GERVAIS, D. BROWN, J. RICE,
STICKNEY, STRIZICH, CODY, DARKO, MESSMORE, BECKER,
L. NELSON, LEE, MEASURE, BROOKE

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA DIRECTING THE
COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON
DISPARITIES IN SENTENCING OF NATIVE AMERICANS.

WHEREAS, in 1987, approximately 17% of all prison
inmates under state or federal jurisdiction in Montana were
Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans account for only 6% of the
total population in Montana; and

WHEREAS, these statistics show that Native Americans are
disproportionately represented in the Montana inmate
population; and

WHEREAS, the disproportionate representation of Native
Americans in the inmate population raises questions
concerning the sentencing of Native Americans in this state;
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WHEREAS, national studies have documented racial
disparities in sentencing and the time served by minorities
who are sentenced to prison.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Bar
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