

FIRST READING

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13

INTRODUCED BY BENGTSON, BRAND, FLEMING, MULAR,

WILLIAMS, GUNDERSON, CONROY, FINLEY

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO ~~REESTABLISH--THE--PROGRAM--OF~~ COST-SHARING--FOR--LINING-OF-IRRIGATION-SYSTEMS CONTINUE THE ACP PROGRAMS, SPECIFICALLY COST-SHARING FOR LINING DITCHES OF IRRIGATION SYSTEMS.

WHEREAS, water resources are an essential state and national resource; and

WHEREAS, irrigation is essential to the development of certain agricultural lands; and

WHEREAS, ditching is a ~~form-of~~ METHOD FOR TRANSPORTING WATER FOR irrigation; and

WHEREAS, the present system of earth ditches allows seepage and loss of this valuable resource; and

WHEREAS, the cost of improving existing irrigation ditches is ~~prohibitive~~ EXPENSIVE FOR THE INDIVIDUAL LANDOWNER; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the health and welfare of the state and nation to conserve and use water wisely.

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

That, the U.S. Department of Agriculture ~~reestablish~~ ~~the-program-of-cost-sharing-for--lining--irrigation--systems~~ CONTINUE THE ACP PROGRAMS, SPECIFICALLY COST-SHARING FOR LINING DITCHES OF IRRIGATION SYSTEMS.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent by the Secretary of State to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and to the President of the United States.

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