

FIRST READING

MISSING

SECOND READING

MISSING

THIRD READING

MISSING

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 48

2 INTRODUCED BY GUNDERSON, BRADLEY, HUENNEKENS, MURPHY,

3 STAIGMILLER, MANUEL, MARKS, FISHBAUGH

4  
5 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
6 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE  
7 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION TO CONDUCT  
8 A STUDY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STATEWIDE SOILS INVENTORY.

9  
10 WHEREAS, soil, a basic physical resource, is critically  
11 important to the economy and environment of Montana for its  
12 value in crop, livestock, timber and wildlife production and  
13 also is important for its value as a site and source of  
14 materials for urban, industrial, and recreational related  
15 developments, and

16 WHEREAS, the national energy crisis has focused  
17 attention on the vast coal resources of eastern Montana, and  
18 the international need for more food and fiber production  
19 has emphasized the unique relationships between soil  
20 properties and continued high level of production, and

21 WHEREAS, soil survey data is a vital ingredient to  
22 insure proper and sound land use plans, and soil surveys can  
23 provide timely information that will assist in the proper  
24 reclamation of lands used for the extraction of nonrenewable  
25 resources, and

1 WHEREAS, soils survey information is needed to identify  
2 and reclaim saline-seep affected areas, and identify  
3 flood-prone areas, wetlands, critical erosion areas, sources  
4 of high sediment production, and those lands that are well  
5 suited for agricultural uses, and

6 WHEREAS, many of the problems of maintaining  
7 environmental quality and productive capacity are difficult  
8 to resolve effectively in the absence of adequate resource  
9 data, AND

10 WHEREAS, THE USDA SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE, WITH  
11 LEADERSHIP FOR THE NATIONAL COOPERATIVE SOIL SURVEY IN  
12 MONTANA, HAS, IN COOPERATION WITH THE MONTANA AGRICULTURAL  
13 EXPERIMENT STATIONS AND OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES COMPLETED  
14 DETAILED SOIL SURVEYS ON THIRTY-FOUR MILLION (34,000,000)  
15 ACRES, AND

16 WHEREAS, WITH THE CURRENT FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL  
17 RESOURCES, IT WILL TAKE ABOUT FIFTEEN (15) YEARS TO COMPLETE  
18 THE SOIL SURVEY IN MONTANA.

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

22 That the Department of Natural Resources and  
23 Conservation IN COOPERATION WITH CONSERVATION DISTRICTS,  
24 PRIVATE LAND OWNERS, LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES, is  
25 hereby requested to conduct a detailed PRELIMINARY study in

REFERENCE BILL

1 ~~cooperation--with--appropriate--private--landowners,--local,~~  
 2 ~~state,--and--federal--agencies--for--development--of--a--program--and~~  
 3 ~~funding--to--effectuate--a--central--statewide--soils--inventory~~ TO  
 4 ANALYZE AND DETERMINE THE NEED FOR A STATE PROGRAM TO  
 5 SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THOSE AGENCIES NOW PARTICIPATING IN  
 6 THE NATIONAL COOPERATIVE SOIL SURVEY TO ACCELERATE THE  
 7 PRODUCTION OF DETAILED SOIL SURVEYS IN MONTANA ~~TO--ADEQUATELY~~  
 8 ~~DEAL--WITH--ENERGY,--AGRICULTURAL--PRODUCTION,--ENVIRONMENTAL~~  
 9 ~~CONCERNS,~~ and its incorporation into a data bank.  
 10 Recommendations ~~and--draft--legislation--implementing--those~~  
 11 ~~recommendations~~ shall be submitted to the Forty-fifth  
 12 Legislature when it convenes.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Secretary of  
 14 State send copies of this joint resolution to affected  
 15 agencies of the United States Department of Agriculture,  
 16 United States Forest Service, Soil Conservation Service,  
 17 Agricultural Research Service, Cooperative Extension  
 18 Service; the United States Department of the Interior,  
 19 Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of  
 20 Sports Fisheries and Wildlife, Bureau of Indian Affairs,  
 21 Bureau of Outdoor Recreation; to the Montana Department of  
 22 Fish and Game, Department of State Lands, the Montana  
 23 Agricultural Experiment Station, and to the Montana  
 24 Congressional Delegation.

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