Senate JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 11

INTRODUCED BY Severtson, Petrone, Jergeson, Conover

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE FEASIBILITY OF A REVISION OF UTILITY RATE STRUCTURES DESIGNED TO PROVIDE RELIEF FOR THE ELDERLY.

WHEREAS, most retired citizens live on fixed incomes or incomes which do not keep up with inflation, and such incomes are often at or near the poverty level; and

WHEREAS, the combination of energy shortages and general inflation has caused or will cause rates charged for residential use of natural gas and electricity to increase sharply, at the particular detriment to persons on low, fixed incomes; and

WHEREAS, a program of reduced or stabilized gas and electric rates for the elderly, for which the public utilities would be compensated by receiving equivalent increases in the rates charged other classes of consumers, would be in the public interest.

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

LC 0375

That the public service commission is urged to investigate the feasibility of instituting residential rate schedule revisions for natural gas and electricity which would provide relief to elderly consumers.

-End-