

FIRST READING

MISSING

SECOND READING

MISSING

THIRD READING

MISSING

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 25

INTRODUCED BY COLBERG, NORMAN, R. SMITH, BROWN, ROBERTS

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THAT PRESIDENT FORD TO RELEASE IMPOUNDED FUNDS WHICH HAVE BEEN EARMARKED FOR THE ~~FOREST-SERVICE~~ NATIONAL FOREST PROGRAM AND THAT THE CONGRESS, RECOGNIZING THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE CURRENT UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM AND FUTURE FORESTRY NEEDS OF THE NATION, PROVIDE THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT AT LEAST THE MODERATE SUPPLY ALTERNATIVE OF THE NATIONAL FOREST ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM FOR THE FUTURE.

WHEREAS, the national forests in Montana are established by law and dedicated to the principles of multiple-use management which provide for a continuing supply of a variety of goods and services for the benefit of the American people, and

WHEREAS, THE NATIONAL FORESTS IN MONTANA, TOGETHER WITH THE THOUSANDS OF SMALL OWNER WOODLANDS, ARE THE MAJOR SOURCE OF RAW MATERIALS FOR MONTANA'S WOOD-USING INDUSTRIES, AND

WHEREAS, a strong, solvent timber FOREST PRODUCTS industry is essential for the future welfare of the state of Montana and this nation, and

WHEREAS, wood products from the forest are a renewable

resource that requires less energy in their manufacture than substitutes and contribute directly to the energy pool, and

~~WHEREAS, the national forests in Montana are the major source of raw materials for Montana's wood-using industries, and~~

WHEREAS, the volume and quality of tomorrow's timber supplies are dependent upon capital investments in planting and thinning, and

WHEREAS, ALMOST FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF SMALL OWNER WOODLANDS IN MONTANA ARE LYING IDLE OR POORLY STOCKED AND TOGETHER WITH MUCH OF THE NATIONAL FOREST LAND ARE IN NEED OF PLANTING OF FOREST IMPROVEMENT AND WOULD BENEFIT DIRECTLY FROM ASSISTANCE AND INCENTIVE FUNDS PROVIDED UNDER THIS PROGRAM, AND

WHEREAS, failure to make these investments in planting programs and timber stand improvement projects in the ~~national~~ MONTANA'S forests will result in a serious timber shortage and economic chaos for Montana's timber industries, and

WHEREAS, revenues generated from the various products produced by the national forests have historically enriched the treasury of the United States more than the appropriations that have been allocated to the Forest Service, and

WHEREAS, ~~some of the funds appropriated by Congress to~~

1 accomplish--this--work--and amounting to ten million dollars
2 have been impounded by President Ford, and

3 WHEREAS, the Montana share of those impounded funds
4 would be five hundred thirty-one thousand dollars and would
5 create thirty-four person/years of new employment in the
6 national forests in this time of high unemployment, and

7 WHEREAS, if the programs of the national forests
8 NATIONAL FOREST ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM FOR THE FUTURE were
9 fully funded at requested levels THE MODERATE SUPPLY
10 ALTERNATIVE LEVEL there would be an additional eighty-four
11 person/years of employment created in this state FOR OVER A
12 THOUSAND PEOPLE AS WELL AS PROVIDING YOUTH CONSERVATION
13 CORPS AND JOB CORPS TRAINING FOR HUNDREDS OF MONTANA'S
14 UNEMPLOYED YOUNG PEOPLE, and

15 WHEREAS, Congress, using an expanded program of tree
16 thinning and planting could readily provide jobs for one
17 thousand people to offset jobs being lost and to help build
18 homes.

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

21 THAT THE PRESIDENT BE REQUESTED TO TAKE NOTE OF THE
22 GRAVE UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM IN MONTANA AND RELEASE THE FUNDS
23 AS PART OF HIS AVOWED PROGRAM TO PUT PEOPLE BACK TO WORK.

24 That BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT the members of this

1 legislature are opposed to this fund withholding action and
2 respectfully request the President to release the funds
3 without delay.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that President Ford be
5 requested to make all possible efforts to insure that the
6 silvicultural management practices of the USDA Forest
7 Service and amount of work being accomplished will be
8 sufficient to avert a national timber supply shortage which
9 otherwise will occur in the future; AND THE CONGRESS
10 RECOGNIZING THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS AND
11 THE FUTURE FORESTRY NEEDS OF THE NATION PROVIDE THE
12 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT AT LEAST
13 THE MODERATE SUPPLY ALTERNATIVE OF THE NATIONAL FOREST
14 ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM FOR THE FUTURE.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President be requested
16 to take note of the grave unemployment problem in Montana
17 and release the funds as part of his avowed program to put
18 people back to work.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution
20 be sent to the President of the United States, the Montana
21 Congressional Delegation, and the Secretary of the Interior
22 AGRICULTURE by the Montana Secretary of State.

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