

1 *Senate* JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 26
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Murphy, Greely, Daniels, Eschbacher*
 3 *Cetron, Mack*
 4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
 5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE
 6 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERESTED
 7 PARTIES AND AGENCIES TO UNDERTAKE AN INTERIM STUDY OF
 8 FISHING AND HUNTING ACCESS IN MONTANA.

9
 10 WHEREAS, adequate access for Montana sportsmen
 11 continues to cause controversy between landowners and
 12 sportsmen; and

13 WHEREAS, there are many cooperative agreements that are
 14 proving workable; and

15 WHEREAS, forced access is not acceptable to landowners
 16 and is a detriment to long-term sportsmen-landowner
 17 relations; and

18 WHEREAS, legal remedies and other solutions have not
 19 been thoroughly researched and studied; and

20 WHEREAS, an interim study would facilitate cooperative
 21 solutions to this difficult issue; and

22 WHEREAS, such a study would encourage increased
 23 cooperation between landowners and sportsmen.

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 Priorities is requested to assign
 3 to the appropriate standing committee a study of public
 4 access problems in Montana during the interim and report
 5 back to the Forty-fifth Legislature with their findings and
 6 recommendations.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following state and
 8 federal agencies and private organizations are requested to
 9 appoint representatives to an advisory task force to work
 10 with the interim study committee:

11 The United States Department of Agriculture, the United
 12 States Department of Interior, the Department of State
 13 Lands, the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation,
 14 the Department of Fish and Game, the Department of
 15 Livestock, the Association of Grazing and Conservation
 16 Districts, the Montana Stock Growers Association, the
 17 Montana Wool Growers Association, the Montana Wilderness
 18 Association, the Montana Wildlife Federation, the
 19 Environmental Information Center, the Northern Plains
 20 Resource Council, Trout Unlimited, Montana Farmers Union and
 21 the Montana Farm Bureau Federation.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Interim Committee in
 23 cooperation with the Task Force shall hold at least one (1)
 24 public hearing in each of the five (5) public service
 25 districts for the purpose of eliciting public comment on

1 this important issue.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that once the Interim Committee
3 recommendations are formulated that the hearing procedure
4 mentioned in the previous paragraph shall be repeated in
5 order to elicit further comment.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislative Interim
7 Committee shall report back to the Forty-fifth Legislature
8 with a written report of their findings and recommendations.

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