

1 *Senate* JOINT RESOLUTION NO. *14*
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Stacy Murray Debra Lockie*
 3 *Holt Owen Flynn Seaylan Claylock*

4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
 5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA DIRECTING THOSE
 6 STATE AGENCIES REQUIRED TO PREPARE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
 7 STATEMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS TO MINIMIZE DUPLICATION OF
 8 EFFORT, EXPENSE, AND TIME SPENT IN THEIR PREPARATION.

9
 10 WHEREAS, various environmental laws in Montana,
 11 including the "Montana Environmental Policy Act", the "Major
 12 Facility Siting Act", and the "Subdivision and Platting
 13 Act", require state agencies to prepare environmental impact
 14 statements and assessments to inform the public of possible
 15 adverse environmental effects of various projects; and

16 WHEREAS, over the years these impact statements have
 17 grown too cumbersome, lengthy, and costly in relation to
 18 their social value; and

19 WHEREAS, it is unnecessary to duplicate studies of
 20 similar aspects of resource factors with each study; and

21 WHEREAS, many Montana citizens, who should be the
 22 primary beneficiaries of these impact statements, are unable
 23 to pierce the veil of bureaucratic jargon that enshrouds the
 24 reports.

25

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

3 (1) That those state agencies charged with
 4 participating in the environmental impact statement process,
 5 particularly the Departments of Natural Resources and
 6 Conservation, Health and Environmental Sciences, Highways,
 7 Fish and Game, Community Affairs, and State Lands and the
 8 Environmental Quality Council take immediate measures to
 9 simplify and minimize the cost of these reports.

10 (2) That in order to avoid duplication of material on
 11 particular aspects of environmental problems in similar
 12 reports, the above-cited agencies cooperate in providing
 13 summaries of these reports to interested and affected
 14 citizens who request them.

15 (3) That the lead agencies supply the full reports
 16 only to directly affected parties and to the public
 17 libraries and county clerk and recorders of each county
 18 affected, thereby preventing a needless waste of state
 19 resources.

20 (4) That copies of this resolution be sent to the
 21 state agencies enumerated herein by the Secretary of State.

-End-

Approved by Committee
on Natural Resources

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 14
 2 INTRODUCED BY STORY, MURRAY, DUNKLE,
 3 ROSKIE, GALT, DOVER, FLYNN, BOYLAN, BLAYLOCK
 4
 5 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
 6 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA DIRECTING THOSE
 7 STATE AGENCIES REQUIRED TO PREPARE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
 8 STATEMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS TO MINIMIZE DUPLICATION OF
 9 EFFORT, EXPENSE, AND TIME SPENT IN THEIR PREPARATION.
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 11 WHEREAS, various environmental laws in Montana,
 12 including the "Montana Environmental Policy Act", the
 13 "MONTANA Major Facility Siting Act", and the "MONTANA
 14 Subdivision and Platting Act", require state agencies to
 15 prepare environmental impact statements and assessments to
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 16 citizens who request them.
 17 (3) That the lead agencies supply the full reports
 18 only to directly affected parties and to the public
 19 libraries and county clerk and recorders of each county
 20 affected, thereby preventing a needless waste of state
 21 resources.
 22 ~~(4) THAT THE LEAD AGENCIES AVOID THE DUPLICATION OF~~
 23 ~~ERRORS, OMISSIONS, AND MISTAKES OF PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL~~
 24 ~~IMPACT STATEMENTS.~~
 25 (4) That copies of this resolution be sent to the

SECOND READING

SJR 0014/02

1 state agencies enumerated herein by the Secretary of State.

-End-

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 14

INTRODUCED BY STORY, MURRAY, DUNKLE,
ROSKIE, GALT, DOVER, FLYNN, BOYLAN, BLAYLOCK

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA DIRECTING THOSE STATE AGENCIES REQUIRED TO PREPARE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS TO MINIMIZE DUPLICATION OF EFFORT, EXPENSE, AND TIME SPENT IN THEIR PREPARATION.

WHEREAS, various environmental laws in Montana, including the "Montana Environmental Policy Act", the "MONTANA Major Facility Siting Act", and the "MONTANA Subdivision and Platting Act", require state agencies to prepare environmental impact statements and assessments to inform the public of possible adverse environmental effects of various projects; and

WHEREAS, over the years these impact statements have grown too cumbersome, lengthy, and costly in relation to their social value; and

WHEREAS, it is unnecessary to duplicate studies of similar aspects of resource factors with each study; and

WHEREAS, many Montana citizens, who should be the primary beneficiaries of these impact statements, are unable to pierce the veil of bureaucratic jargon that enshrouds the

reports.

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

(1) That those state agencies charged with participating in the environmental impact statement process, particularly the Departments of Natural Resources and Conservation, Health and Environmental Sciences, Highways, Fish and Game, Community Affairs, and State Lands and the Environmental Quality Council take immediate measures to simplify and minimize the cost of these reports.

(2) That in order to avoid duplication of material on particular aspects of environmental problems in similar reports, the above-cited agencies cooperate in providing summaries of these reports to interested and affected citizens who request them.

(3) That the lead agencies supply the full reports only to directly affected parties and to the public libraries and county clerk and recorders of each county affected, thereby preventing a needless waste of state resources.

~~(4) THAT THE LEAD AGENCIES AVOID THE DUPLICATION OF ERRORS, OMISSIONS, AND MISTAKES OF PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS.~~

(4)(5) That copies of this resolution be sent to the

SJR. 0014/02

1 state agencies enumerated herein by the Secretary of State-

-End-

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 14, 1977

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AMENDMENTS TO SJR 14

1. Amend page 2, line 25.

Following: "sent"

Insert: "by the Secretary of State"

Following: "to the"

Insert: "Governor and to the"

2. Amend page 3, line 1.

Following: "herein"

Strike: "by the Secretary of State"

AS AMENDED CONCURRED IN

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 14

2 INTRODUCED BY STORY, MURRAY, DUNKLE,

3 RUSKIE, GALT, DOVER, FLYNN, BOYLAN, BLAYLOCK

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5 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
6 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA DIRECTING THOSE
7 STATE AGENCIES REQUIRED TO PREPARE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
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23 ~~ERRORS, OMISSIONS, AND MISTAKES OF PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL~~
24 ~~IMPACT STATEMENTS.~~

25 (4)(5) That copies of this resolution be sent BY THE

REFERENCE BILL

SJR 0014/03

1 ~~SECRETARY OF STATE~~ to the ~~GOVERNOR AND TO THE~~ state agencies
2 enumerated herein ~~by the Secretary of State.~~

-End-