

1 *Senyts* JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 26
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Senyts*
 3 *by Request*

4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
 5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA DIRECTING THE
 6 GOVERNOR TO REQUEST THE UNITED STATES STATE DEPARTMENT TO
 7 URGE THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TO PRICE GAS SO AS TO REFLECT
 8 THE VARYING COMPETITIVE CONDITIONS IN THE DIFFERENT MARKET
 9 AREAS.

10
 11 WHEREAS, the Honourable Alastair Gillespie, Minister of
 12 Energy, Mines and Resources, on May 18, 1976, indicated to
 13 the Canadian House of Commons that it was the Canadian
 14 Government's desire to set the export price of natural gas
 15 to reflect the varying competitive conditions in the
 16 different market areas; and

17 WHEREAS, the United States State Department in advance
 18 consultations with Canadian officials expressed a strong
 19 preference for a single average border price; and

20 WHEREAS, under the Canadian pricing theory, the border
 21 price to the consumers of Montana would be \$1.80 per million
 22 Btu's and under the State Department's theory the price to
 23 Montana consumers would be \$1.94 per million Btu's; and

24 WHEREAS, effective January 1, 1977, the border price
 25 was raised to \$1.94 per million Btu's; and

INTRODUCED BILL

1 WHEREAS, this latter action was taken in order to
 2 conform to the United States Government's wishes but
 3 conflicts with sound economic pricing theory and is counter
 4 to the Canadian Government's expressed policy to insure as
 5 far as possible that its export gas be priced in relation to
 6 alternative available sources in the market concerned.

7
 8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE
 9 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

10 That these bodies concur in the Canadian reasoning and
 11 reject the reasoning expressed by the United States State
 12 Department.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governor request that
 14 the United States Congress, United States State Department,
 15 and all other appropriate Federal agencies and departments
 16 do all things necessary and proper to influence the Canadian
 17 Government to reconsider its action and lower the
 18 Canadian-Montana border price of natural gas from \$1.74 to
 19 \$1.80 per million Btu's.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution
 21 should be sent to United States Senators Lee Metcalf and
 22 John Melcher, United States Representatives Max Baucus and
 23 Ron Marlenee, and to the United States State Department.

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