

Senate JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 37  
 INTRODUCED BY Business and Industry Committee  
Hagelbaker, Chairman Haddock

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 4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
 5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE  
 6 UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF THE  
 7 FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION DECISIONS ON THE  
 8 RESIDENTIAL, RURAL, AND SMALL BUSINESS USER OF  
 9 TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

10  
 11 WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Act of 1934 adopted  
 12 a national telecommunications policy of promoting the widest  
 13 availability of high quality communications service at the  
 14 lowest cost to the entire public; and

15 WHEREAS, the near-universality of telephone service in  
 16 the United States attests to the wisdom of this national  
 17 policy of promoting an integrated switched communications  
 18 network with end-to-end service responsibility; and

19 WHEREAS, in recent decisions, the Federal  
 20 Communications Commission has pursued a policy of  
 21 authorizing lines, facilities and services of specialized  
 22 common carriers to duplicate the lines, facilities, and  
 23 services of other telecommunications common carriers; and

24 WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission's policy  
 25 permits the direct connection of non-utility-provided

1 telephone instruments, PBXs, and other types of terminal  
 2 equipment to the telephone network; and if upon  
 3 investigation by our United States Congressmen and proper  
 4 regulatory agencies it is found that such practices in fact  
 5 increase rates to the consumer; and

6 WHEREAS, if the proper authority finds the  
 7 above-described actions of the Federal Communications  
 8 Commission will benefit certain business and larger  
 9 telecommunications subscribers and will adversely affect  
 10 residential and smaller telecommunications subscribers; and

11 WHEREAS, if the proper authority finds these policies  
 12 have changed the traditional rate structure for telephone  
 13 service; and

14 WHEREAS, if the proper authority finds these changes  
 15 have direct implications upon state public service  
 16 commissions which must approve changes in the rate  
 17 structure; and

18 WHEREAS, there has been introduced in the 95th  
 19 Congress, First Session, bills known as "S. 530" and "H.R.  
 20 8", which reaffirm the national policy of assuring widely  
 21 available, high quality service to all the nation's  
 22 telephone users, and reaffirms the authority of the States  
 23 to regulate terminal and station equipment used for  
 24 telephone exchange service, and requires the Federal  
 25 Communications Commission to make certain findings before

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1 authorizing the construction of new interstate facilities or  
2 the furnishing of new services by specialized common  
3 carriers.

4

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

7 That they endorse and approve the purposes and  
8 objectives of the aforesaid bills (S. 530 and H.R. 8) if  
9 such purposes are directed toward lowering or maintaining  
10 lower consumer rates and respectfully urges the elected  
11 Senators and Representatives of the State of Montana in  
12 Congress to support the enactment of said bills if they will  
13 in fact help to provide or maintain lower consumer rates for  
14 telephone service.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution  
16 be sent by the Secretary of State to each Senator and  
17 Representative from the State of Montana in the United  
18 States Congress and that copies be made available to the  
19 press.

-End-

Approved by Committee  
on Business and Industry

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3 Hazelbaker, Chairman Heller

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