

RESOLUTION 4034/11/10

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**State of Montana
Office of the Governor**



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FEB 02 1994
OF MONTANA

Executive Order No. 2-94

**EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING
THE MONTANA CONSENSUS COUNCIL**

Montanans have long followed the western tradition of cooperation, of neighbor helping neighbor. Our towns and cities and our rural ways of life are founded on the shoulders of Montanans working together.

This sense of community is a valuable resource, one we must again nurture as Montana prepares to enter the 21st century. Great changes are at hand. Our economy -- once dominated by agriculture, mining, and timber -- is diversifying with the growth of tourism, recreation, service industries, and an emerging high-tech sector. Our populace also grows more diverse as retirees, professionals, and service providers are drawn here by Montana's inspirational landscape, spaciousness, and a quality of life many find diminished outside our borders.

Now more than ever we must work together to meet the challenges ahead: jobs, education, sustainable communities, and environmental protection. Together, Montanans of all walks of life must seek ways to find agreement, to equitably and

1 effectively resolve these and other important issues.

2 Many citizens are rising to this challenge with a renewed desire to participate
3 in public debate, to have a voice in the decisions that affect their lives. In response,
4 the 1993 Montana Legislature awarded a grant to the Office of the Governor to
5 encourage public participation, and to provide a forum for cooperative and
6 innovative problem-solving, particularly regarding natural resource issues.

7 As Governor, I hereby create The Montana Consensus Council. Its mission
8 is:

9 To provide assistance for building agreement on natural resource and
10 other public policy issues;

11 To anticipate and resolve controversial issues before disputes occur,
12 thereby reducing the social and financial costs associated with prolonged
13 disagreement;

14 To encourage and support opportunities for citizens to work together
15 and build agreement among diverse interests;

16 To enhance the capacity of citizens, communities, agencies, and
17 organizations to jointly solve problems and resolve disputes; and

18 To increase public awareness and understanding of cooperative
19 approaches to building agreement on public policy.

20 The Montana Consensus Council shall be governed by a Board of Directors,
21 initially appointed by the Governor, whose members shall represent a cross-section
22 of Montana's citizens.

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This Order will remain in effect unless rescinded by subsequent Executive Order. This Order is effective immediately.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana, this 22ND day of January in the year of our LORD, One Thousand, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Four.

Marc Racicot
MARC RACICOT, Governor

ATTEST:
Mike Cooney
MIKE COONEY, Secretary of State