## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 33

## IN THE HOUSE

February 8, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Taxation.
March 8, 1979	Committee recommend bill, as amended.
March 10, 1979	Printed and placed on members' desks.
March 13, 1979	Second reading pass consideration.
March 14, 1979	On motion, taken from second reading and referred to Committee on Taxation.

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STATE OF HONTANA REAFFIRMING THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE COAL SEVERANCE TAX AND PLEDGING the people of Montana, through their representatives, have decided that the development of the state's coal reserves should take place in a controlled and orderly fashion; and WHEREAS, the Montana Constitution delegates the taxing authority to the Legislature of the state of Montana; and Quile WHEREAS, the coal mining industry must pay taxes levied Comp by the Legislature and abide by the laws of Montana as is required of all good citizens; and WHEREAS, the Legislature and the people of Montana are cognizant of the environmental ruin and unemployment which has followed the strip-mining industry in Appalachia; and 21 WHEREAS, the extraction of this resource has the radically after the political, social, Jan 22 23 economic, and environmental character of the state of 24 Montana; and WHEREAS, the Legislature enacted a 30% severance tax on 25

coal to avoid the mistakes made in the past in Appalachia and Nontana by providing funds to aid local communities suffering from the impacts of coal development, providing loans and grants for research into renewable sources of placing a portion of the tax collected in a trust fund for the benefit of future generations of Montanans; and

WHEREAS: the Legislature has enacted a 30% severance tax on coal to avoid the mistakes of the past, by helping local communities cope with coal development and to insure prosperity for future generations of Montanans; and

WHEREAS, out-of-state interests have challenging the 30% coal severance tax and Montana's right to levy such a tax; and

WHEREAS, the suit threatens Montana's right to provide for reasonable and orderly development of coal to protect the safety, health, and general well-being of the citizens of Montana.

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

their support for the 30% severance tax on coal and pledge their full support to the Attorney General's defense of the coal tax suit.

That the Legislature and the people of Montana reaffirm

INTRODUCED

HJR 0033/02 46th Legislature

Approved by Committee on <u>Taxation</u>

	HOUSE TOTAL KEZOFALTON MA* 33
!	INTRODUCED BY FRATES, ROSENTHAL, DAY, BENGTSON, AZZARA,
,	DAILY, GILLIGAN, GESEK, KEEDY, KEMMIS, UHDE, K. ROBBINS,
,	STAIGHILLER, LIEN, METCALF, MANNING, HOLMES, SHELDEN,
j	HARRINGTON: KANDUCH: FAGG: O'COMMELL: KEYSER: BAETH:
5	OBERG, MANUEL, STOBIE, FEDA, TEAGUE, REICHERT, WYRICK,
,	MAGONE, VINCENT, MEHRENS, H. ROBBINS, HARPER, DOZIER, HIRSCH,
3	DUSSAULT, UNDERDAL, DASSINGER, QUILICI, TROPILA, ELLIS,
9	SCHULTZ, MEYER, YARDLEY, HUENNEKENS, ELLISON, JENSEN,
)	S. BROWN, ERNST, FABREGA, HEMSTAD, VINGER, WILLTAMS.
l	GERKE, HEALY, REGAN, CONOVER, FASBENDER, BLAYLOCK,
•	MENAHAN: VAN VALKENBURG: McCALLUM: KVAALEN
3	
4	A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
5	REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REAFFIRMING THEIR
6	SUPPURT FOR THE COAL SEVERANCE TAX AND PLEOGING THEIR
7	SUPPORT FOR THE SUIT DEFENDING THE TAX.
8	
9	WHEREASythepeople-of-Montonay-through-their-elected
0	representativesy-have-decided-that-thedevelopmentofthe
	state*scoat-reserves-should-take-place-in-a-controlled-and
1	
2	orderty-feshions-and
<b>خ</b>	WHEREAS: the Montana Constitution delegates the taxing
4	authority to the Legislature of the state of Montana; and
5	WHEREAS, the coal mining industry must pay taxes levied

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1	by the Legislature and abide by the laws of Montana es-i
2	required-of-off-good-citizens; and
3	WHEREASy-the-tegislature-and-the-people-of-Montanaar
4	cogn+zantofthe-env+ronmental-ruin-and-unemployment-whic
5	has-followed-the-strip-mining-industry-in-Appalachia;-and
6	WHEREASytheextractionofthisresourcehasth
7	potentialtoradicallyalterthepoliticalysocial
8	economicyandenvironmentalcharacterofthestateo
9	Hontanat-and
10	WHEREASy-the-tegislature-enacted-a-30%-severance-tax-o
11	cosłtoevoidthe-mistakes-made-in-the-past-in-Appolachi
15	and-Montana-by-prov <del>idingfundstoaidlocalcommuni</del> tie
13	sufferingfromtheimpacts-of-coal-developmentv-providin
14	loans-and-grants-forresearchintorenewablesourcesa
15	energyyandpłocingaportionof-the-tax-collected-in-
16	trustfundforthebenefitoffuturegenerationso
17	bne-tenenatnoH
18	WHEREASythetegislaturehas-enacted-a-30%-severanc
19	tax-an-coal-to-avoid-the-mistakes-of-thepastvbyhelpin
20	localcommunitiescope-with-coal-development-and-to-insur
21	prosperity-for-future-generations-of-Montanans;-and
22	WHEREAS, out-of-state interests have filed sui
23	challenging the 30% coal severance tax and Montana's righ
24	to levy such a tax <del>1-ond</del>

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WHEREASy-the-suit-threatens-Montana-s-right-to--provide

1	forreasonableandorderly-development-of-coel-to-protect
2	${\tt the-safetyv-healthv-and-general-well-being-of-thecitizens}$
3	of-Montense
4	

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

7 That the Legislature and the people of Montana reaffirm 8 their support for the 30% severance tax on coal and pledge 9 their full support to the Attorney General's defense of the 10 coal tax suit.

-End-

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HJR 33