

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 51

INTRODUCED BY BERTELSEN

IN THE HOUSE

March 5, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Natural Resources.
March 19, 1979	Committee recommend bill do pass. Report adopted.
March 20, 1979	Printed and placed on members' desks.
March 21, 1979	Second reading, do pass.
March 22, 1979	Considered correctly engrossed.
March 23, 1979	Third reading, passed. Transmitted to second house.

IN THE SENATE

March 24, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Natural Resources.
April 7, 1979	Committee recommend bill be concurred in. Report adopted.
April 9, 1979	Second reading, concurred in as amended.
April 11, 1979	Third reading, concurred in as amended.

IN THE HOUSE

April 12, 1979	Returned from second house. Concurred in as amended.
April 13, 1979	Second reading, amendments rejected.

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April 13, 1979

On motion Free Joint Conference Committee requested.

April 16, 1979

Free Joint Conference Committee appointed.

April 18, 1979

Free Joint Conference Committee reported.

Second reading, adopted.

Third reading, adopted.

April 19, 1979

Adopted by second house.

April 20, 1979

Sent to enrolling.

Reported correctly enrolled.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 51

INTRODUCED BY Basteman-----

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE COMMITTEE ON PRIORITIES TO ASSIGN TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL A STUDY OF THE PROBLEMS OF BENTONITE DEVELOPMENT IN MONTANA.

WHEREAS, Montana possesses a significant percentage of the world's reserve of sodium bentonite, "the clay of 1,000 uses"; and

WHEREAS, the state is on the brink of massive development of these bentonite deposits, with new processing plants being constructed, one of which will be the world's largest and will produce over 1 million tons a year by the mid-1980's; and

WHEREAS, preliminary studies indicate that Montana's present bentonite reclamation laws may be inadequate to meet the demands of large-scale development; and

WHEREAS, Montana has a considerably lower rate of taxation of this valuable and necessary mineral than South Dakota and Wyoming, the only other states which possess sodium bentonite deposits; and

WHEREAS, Montana must act now to insure efficient development of this vast resource, adequate reclamation of

bentonite-mined lands, and a fair return for the state from the development of its bentonite reserves; and

WHEREAS, immediate study and timely action are necessary to prevent the possible preemption by the federal government of state control over bentonite development.

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

That the Committee on Priorities is urged to assign a study of the problems surrounding large-scale development of Montana's sodium bentonite reserves, with particular emphasis on reclamation of bentonite-mined lands and taxation of bentonite.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study shall be assigned to the bipartisan Environmental Quality Council, as its scientific and technical staff is best able to assist in conducting this study.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Environmental Quality Council shall report its findings together with recommendations and proposed legislation to the 47th Legislature.

-End-

-2- 11/5/51  
INTRODUCED BILL

Approved by Committee  
on Natural Resources

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 51

INTRODUCED BY Bertelson-----

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-End-

HJR 51  
SECOND READING

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 51  
 2 INTRODUCED BY Bertelson  
 3  
 4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
 5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE COMMITTEE  
 6 ON PRIORITIES TO ASSIGN TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL  
 7 A STUDY OF THE PROBLEMS OF BENTONITE DEVELOPMENT IN MONTANA.  
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 9 WHEREAS, Montana possesses a significant percentage of  
 10 the world's reserve of sodium bentonite, "the clay of 1,000  
 11 uses"; and  
 12 WHEREAS, the state is on the brink of massive  
 13 development of these bentonite deposits, with new processing  
 14 plants being constructed, one of which will be the world's  
 15 largest and will produce over 1 million tons a year by the  
 16 mid-1980's; and  
 17 WHEREAS, preliminary studies indicate that Montana's  
 18 present bentonite reclamation laws may be inadequate to meet  
 19 the demands of large-scale development; and  
 20 WHEREAS, Montana has a considerably lower rate of  
 21 taxation of this valuable and necessary mineral than South  
 22 Dakota and Wyoming, the only other states which possess  
 23 sodium bentonite deposits; and  
 24 WHEREAS, Montana must act now to insure efficient  
 25 development of this vast resource, adequate reclamation of

1 bentonite-mined lands, and a fair return for the state from  
 2 the development of its bentonite reserves; and  
 3 WHEREAS, immediate study and timely action are  
 4 necessary to prevent the possible preemption by the federal  
 5 government of state control over bentonite development.  
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 7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE  
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 9 That the Committee on Priorities is urged to assign a  
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 11 Montana's sodium bentonite reserves, with particular  
 12 emphasis on reclamation of bentonite-mined lands and  
 13 taxation of bentonite.  
 14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study shall be  
 15 assigned to the bipartisan Environmental Quality Council, as  
 16 its scientific and technical staff is best able to assist in  
 17 conducting this study.  
 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Environmental Quality  
 19 Council shall report its findings together with  
 20 recommendations and proposed legislation to the 47th  
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5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE COMMITTEE  
6 ON PRIORITIES TO ASSIGN TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL  
7 A STUDY OF THE BENEFITS AND PROBLEMS OF BENTONITE  
8 DEVELOPMENT IN MONTANA.  
9

10 WHEREAS, Montana possesses a significant percentage of  
11 the world's reserve of sodium bentonite, "the clay of 1,000  
12 uses"; and

13 WHEREAS, the state is MAY BE on the brink of massive  
14 SUBSTANTIAL development of these bentonite deposits, with  
15 new processing plants being constructed, one of which will  
16 be the world's largest and will produce over 1 million tons  
17 a year by the mid-1980's; and

18 WHEREAS, ~~preliminary studies indicate that~~ THE ADEQUACY  
19 OF Montana's present bentonite reclamation laws ~~may be~~  
20 ~~inadequate to meet~~ HAS NOT BEEN STUDIED IN LIGHT OF the  
21 demands of large-scale development; and

22 WHEREAS, Montana has MAY HAVE a considerably lower rate  
23 of taxation of this valuable and necessary mineral than  
24 South Dakota and Wyoming, the only other states which  
25 possess sodium bentonite deposits; and

1 WHEREAS, Montana ~~must~~ SHOULD act now to insure  
2 efficient development of this vast resource, adequate  
3 reclamation of bentonite-mined lands, and a fair return for  
4 the state from the development of its bentonite reserves;  
5 and

6 ~~WHEREAS, immediate study and timely action are~~  
7 ~~necessary to prevent the possible presumption by the federal~~  
8 ~~government of state control over bentonite development~~

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

12 That the Committee on Priorities is urged to assign a  
13 study of the BENEFITS AND problems surrounding large-scale  
14 development of Montana's sodium bentonite reserves, with  
15 particular emphasis on reclamation of bentonite-mined lands  
16 and taxation of bentonite.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study shall be  
18 assigned to the bipartisan Environmental Quality Council, as  
19 its scientific and technical staff is best able to assist in  
20 conducting this study.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Environmental Quality  
22 Council shall report its findings together with  
23 recommendations and proposed legislation to the 47th  
24 Legislature.

-End-

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4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA ~~URGING THE COMMITTEE~~  
6 ~~ON PRIORITIES TO ASSIGN~~ ASSIGNING TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL  
7 QUALITY COUNCIL A STUDY OF THE BENEFITS AND PROBLEMS OF  
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10 WHEREAS, Montana possesses a significant percentage of  
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12 uses"; and

13 WHEREAS, the state ~~is~~ MAY BE on the brink of ~~massive~~  
14 SUBSTANTIAL development of these bentonite deposits, with  
15 new processing plants being constructed, one of which will  
16 be the world's largest and will produce over 1 million tons  
17 a year by the mid-1980's; and

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23 of taxation of this valuable and necessary mineral than  
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13 study BE MADE of the BENEFITS AND problems surrounding  
14 large-scale development of Montana's sodium bentonite  
15 reserves, with particular emphasis on reclamation of  
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study shall be  
18 ~~assigned to~~ CONDUCTED BY the bipartisan Environmental  
19 Quality Council, as its scientific and technical staff is  
20 best able to assist in conducting this study.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Environmental Quality  
22 Council shall report its findings together with  
23 recommendations and proposed legislation to the 47th  
24 Legislature.

-End-

REFERENCE BILL: Includes Free Joint  
Conference Committee Report  
Dated 4/18/79

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HJR 51

April 9, 1979

SENATE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

That House Joint Resolution No. 51, third reading bill, be amended as follows:

1. Title, line 7.

Following: "THE"

Insert: "BENEFITS AND"

2. Page 1, line 12.

Following: "state"

Strike: "is"

Insert: "maybe"

Following: "of"

Strike: "massive"

Insert: "substantial"

3. Page 1, line 17.,

Following: "WHEREAS,"

Strike: "preliminary studies indicate that"

Insert: "the adequacy of"

4. Page 1, line 18.

Following: "laws"

Strike: "may be inadequate to meet"

Insert: "has not been studies in light of"

5. Page 1, line 20.

Following: "Montana"

Strike: "has"

Insert: "may have"

6. Page 1, line 24.

Following: "Montana"

Strike: "must"

Insert: "should"

7. Page 2, line 2.

Following: "reserves"

Strike: "; and"

Insert: "."

8. Page 2, lines 3 through 5.

Strike: lines 3 through 5 in their entirety

9. Page 2, line 10.

Following: "the"

Insert: "benefits and"