

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 55

IN THE HOUSE

March 10, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Judiciary.
March 15, 1979	Committee recommend bill, as amended, do not pass.
March 17, 1979	Report adopted.

House JOINT RESOLUTION NO. *55*
INTRODUCED BY *Ramsey Turnage*

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4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING
6 ASSIGNMENT OF AN INTERIM COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE MONTANA'S
7 JUDICIAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES, NUMBER OF JUDGES, AND COURT
8 SUPPORT SERVICES.
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10 WHEREAS, there is a continuing need to evaluate the
11 geographic composition of the state's judicial system, the
12 number of judges in that system, and the support personnel
13 and technology that may be used to properly support the
14 system; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1975 and 1976 an interim committee of the
16 legislature struggled with the organization and staffing of
17 the judiciary; and

18 WHEREAS, that committee stated in its report that the
19 efficiency and manpower requirements of the courts could not
20 be adequately assessed because of the lack of available data
21 at that time; and

22 WHEREAS, due, in part, to that committee's concerns,
23 the Court Administrator has collected considerable data that
24 is available now for the consideration of a planning group;
25 and

1 WHEREAS, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court has
2 suggested that it would be timely for a planning group to
3 meet to develop recommendations for judicial districting and
4 support.

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

7 (1) That an interim committee be assigned to evaluate
8 possible changes in the boundaries of Montana's judicial
9 districts, the number of district judges, and the support
10 personnel and applied technology necessary to properly
11 execute the judicial function of the state of Montana.

12 (2) That the interim committee sit with six persons
13 appointed by the Supreme Court as a District Court Planning
14 Committee to pursue its assignment.

15 (3) That the Planning Committee report its findings
16 and submit its recommendations to the 47th Legislature.
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-End-

-2- HJR 55
INTRODUCED BILL