

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17
INTRODUCED BY MANLEY, BERTELSEN, RYAN

IN THE SENATE

February 8, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Education.
February 14, 1979	Committee recommend bill do pass. Report adopted.
February 15, 1979	Printed and placed on members' desks.
February 16, 1979	Second reading, do pass.
February 19, 1979	Considered correctly engrossed.
February 20, 1979	Third reading, passed. Transmitted to second house.

IN THE HOUSE

February 21, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Education and Cultural Resources.
March 1, 1979	Committee recommend bill be concurred in. Report adopted.
March 2, 1979	Second reading, concurred in.
March 5, 1979	Third reading, concurred in.

IN THE SENATE

March 6, 1979	Returned from second house. Concurred in. Sent to enrolling. Reported correctly enrolled.
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1 *Senate* JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17
 2 INTRODUCED BY Mansley, Bertelsen, Ryan
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4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
 5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THAT THE
 6 FINANCIAL PLIGHT OF LINCOLN SCHOOL DISTRICT IN LEWIS AND
 7 CLARK COUNTY BE EVALUATED BY CERTAIN PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS,
 8 THE STATE OF MONTANA, AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND A
 9 SATISFACTORY SOLUTION BE ACHIEVED IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE
 10 EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES FOR SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT NECESSITATED
 11 BY DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF FORMER FACILITIES AND TO PROVIDE
 12 FUTURE ASSISTANCE TO SIMILARLY SITUATED SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

13
 14 WHEREAS, Lincoln School District in Lewis and Clark
 15 County is deeply in need of educational facilities as a
 16 result of destruction by fire of the former facilities
 17 utilized for educational purposes; and

18 WHEREAS, the cost of construction of replacement
 19 facilities may exceed \$500,000; and

20 WHEREAS, the tax base of the school district is such
 21 that only \$380,000 could be generated under the school
 22 district's borrowing capacity because of the following
 23 factors:

24 (1) Lincoln School District contains 669 square miles
 25 of land, of which 82% is owned by the federal, state, or

1 local governments, and the remaining 18% is owned by the
 2 private sector;

3 (2) the assessment value of all private property in
 4 Lincoln School District is \$1,323,081, which provides a
 5 borrowing capacity of \$384,693, including the existing
 6 indebtedness of \$4,000; and

7 (3) the school district share of United States Forest
 8 Service funds generated by timber sales, grazing fees,
 9 land-use fees, recreation charges, utility fees, mineral
 10 revenues, and admission and user fees on National Forest
 11 Service land is negligible, as evidenced by the school
 12 district receipt of \$500 out of a recent \$49,000 United
 13 States Forest Service payment to Lewis and Clark County; and

14 WHEREAS, the population of the school district greatly
 15 warrants educational facilities within the school district,
 16 there being 759 permanent residents, including 186 children
 17 who are 18 years of age or younger, in 1977; and

18 WHEREAS, the degree of isolation of Lincoln School
 19 District from adjacent school districts with adequate
 20 educational facilities necessitates construction of
 21 educational facilities within Lincoln School District.

22
 23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE
 24 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

25 That the financial plight of Lincoln School District in

1 Lewis and Clark County be evaluated by the state of Montana
 2 and the federal government and a satisfactory solution be
 3 achieved in order to provide replacement facilities for the
 4 educational facilities destroyed by fire in Lincoln School
 5 District and to provide future assistance to similarly
 6 situated school districts which, because of inadequate tax
 7 bases, are incapable of independently financing needed
 8 educational facilities.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the citizens of this state
 10 be urged to offer assistance through monetary contribution
 11 to Lincoln School District.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that public interest groups and
 13 citizens that benefit from the preservation of the scenic
 14 beauty of the Lincoln area recognize the burden imposed upon
 15 the residents of Lincoln School District in the preservation
 16 of that beauty by suffering limited revenue from resources
 17 available in abundance upon the federal lands within the
 18 district and that such public interest groups and citizens
 19 be urged to contribute monetarily to defray the expense of
 20 maintaining the natural scenic beauty of the land in Lincoln
 21 School District.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State
 23 send copies of this resolution to the publisher of each
 24 newspaper in the state, the United States Congressional
 25 Delegation from Montana, the United States Congress, the

1 Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and
 2 Welfare, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Regional
 3 Chairman of the Federal Regional Council for Region VIII.

-End-

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