

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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Senate JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17

INTRODUCED BY *Marsley, Bertelsen, Ryan*

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THAT THE FINANCIAL PLIGHT OF LINCOLN SCHOOL DISTRICT IN LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY BE EVALUATED BY CERTAIN PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS, THE STATE OF MONTANA, AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION BE ACHIEVED IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES FOR SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT NECESSITATED BY DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF FORMER FACILITIES AND TO PROVIDE FUTURE ASSISTANCE TO SIMILARLY SITUATED SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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-

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

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19 facilities may exceed \$500,000; and

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22 district's borrowing capacity because of the following
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THIRD READING

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11 Service land is negligible, as evidenced by the school
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