

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 34

IN THE SENATE

March 22, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Fish and Game.
March 30, 1979	Committee recommend bill, do pass.
March 31, 1979	Printed and placed on members' desks.
April 2, 1979	Second reading, do pass.
April 3, 1979	Considered correctly engrossed. On motion, taken from Committee on Bills and Journal and referred to Committee on Finance and Claims. Motion adopted.
April 20, 1979	Died in Committee.

Senat JOINT RESOLUTION NO. *34*

INTRODUCED BY *Ed Smith Mike Anderson Severson*
Van Valkenburg Starnatz Manly Holt Goodover

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE ASSIGNMENT OF AN INTERIM LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE FUNDING FOR AND OPERATION OF THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS.

WHEREAS, the protection, preservation, and propagation of Montana's fish and wildlife are funded almost entirely through collection of fees for fishing, hunting, and trapping licenses; and

WHEREAS, there are certain restrictions on the use of money derived from hunting and fishing license fees that determine Montana's eligibility to receive substantial federal matching funds for fish and wildlife management; and

WHEREAS, management of Montana's state parks and recreation areas is funded partially through general fund money; and

WHEREAS, the adequacy of these funding sources to support proper management and supervision of these fish, wildlife, park, and related resources has been questioned; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks'

efficiency and effectiveness in using these funding sources for proper management of fish, wildlife, and parks has been the subject of considerable debate among legislators, agriculturalists, and sportsmen; and

WHEREAS, the 46th Legislature and recent past legislatures have seen the introduction of a number of bills and resolutions relating to the above issues, none of which has adequately addressed the problems involved; and

WHEREAS, there is insufficient revenue for the department to meet all its statutory responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, resolution of these problems is necessary to assure a strong and effective program for management of Montana's fish and wildlife in order to prevent further encroachment by federal interests.

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

That an appropriate legislative committee, consisting of equal representation of both houses and both parties, be appointed and assigned to study the funding for and operation of the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee shall study:

(1) hunting, fishing, and trapping license fees and their adequacy to meet the department's management and statutory responsibilities;

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- 1 (2) fees and other funding sources for parks,
- 2 recreation areas, state monuments, historic sites, and other
- 3 recreational sites;
- 4 (3) funding sources and responsibility for land
- 5 acquisitions;
- 6 (4) potential revenue sources for management and
- 7 statutory responsibility for nongame wildlife;
- 8 (5) the requirements and eligibility for participation
- 9 in federal and private grant and other funding programs;
- 10 (6) the relationship between resident and nonresident
- 11 fee structures;
- 12 (7) the compensation of license agents;
- 13 (8) the use of interest derived from all funds
- 14 earmarked for use by the department;
- 15 (9) the revenue derived from a specific fee source as
- 16 it relates to the program or other activities funded by that
- 17 source;
- 18 (10) the adequacy of earmarked funding sources to meet
- 19 the department's responsibilities with regard to snowmobiles
- 20 and motorboats;
- 21 (11) the use of money derived from fines, forfeitures,
- 22 and sale of confiscated game;
- 23 (12) the long-range capital development of buildings
- 24 and facilities; and
- 25 (13) other related funding problems.

- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee shall hold
- 2 at least one meeting in each of the department's seven
- 3 administrative regions.
- 4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study shall be funded
- 5 from the earmarked revenue account for the Department of
- 6 Fish, Wildlife, and Parks.
- 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee shall report
- 8 its findings, recommendations, and any remedial legislation
- 9 to the regular session of the 47th Legislature.

-End-

Approved by Comm.
on Fish and Game

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WHEREAS, there are certain restrictions on the use of money derived from hunting and fishing license fees that determine Montana's eligibility to receive substantial federal matching funds for fish and wildlife management; and

WHEREAS, management of Montana's state parks and recreation areas is funded partially through general fund money; and

WHEREAS, the adequacy of these funding sources to support proper management and supervision of these fish, wildlife, park, and related resources has been questioned; and

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efficiency and effectiveness in using these funding sources for proper management of fish, wildlife, and parks has been the subject of considerable debate among legislators, agriculturalists, and sportsmen; and

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5 acquisitions;

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7 statutory responsibility for nongame wildlife;

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9 in federal and private grant and other funding programs;

10 (6) the relationship between resident and nonresident
11 fee structures;

12 (7) the compensation of license agents;

13 (8) the use of interest derived from all funds
14 earmarked for use by the department;

15 (9) the revenue derived from a specific fee source as
16 it relates to the program or other activities funded by that
17 source;

18 (10) the adequacy of earmarked funding sources to meet
19 the department's responsibilities with regard to snowmobiles
20 and motorboats;

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22 and sale of confiscated game;

23 (12) the long-range capital development of buildings
24 and facilities; and

25 (13) other related funding problems.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee shall hold
2 at least one meeting in each of the department's seven
3 administrative regions.

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5 from the earmarked revenue account for the Department of
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