

House Joint Resolution 12

In The House

January 16, 1981

Introduced and referred
to Committee on State
Administration.

January 27, 1981

Committee recommend bill
do not pass.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 12

INTRODUCED BY

Sales Smith

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA TO FREEZE THE SALARIES OF ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS IN MONTANA WHOSE SALARIES ARE DETERMINED BY THE LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, In the last election, the voters of the State of Montana expressed a deep concern for the rapidly deteriorating condition of our economy; and

WHEREAS, the members of this Legislature feel that these concerns were well founded based on recent events such as:

(1) the closure of one of the state's major industries, the severe drought conditions in eastern Montana, and the plunge in livestock prices and corporate earnings;

(2) the disastrous slump in building activity and in supporting commerce and services;

(3) the fact that the spendable income of the average Montanan reached the lowest level in over a decade resulting in declining retail sales;

(4) the existence of prime interest rates of over 20%, which have resulted in the closing of many lending

institutions around the country;

(5) soaring unemployment, soaring public and private debt, soaring energy costs, and soaring taxes, coupled with the loss of investment capital, loss of new plant facilities, loss of initiative, and loss of national pride; and

WHEREAS, these and many other basic indicators vividly point out the need for strong, determined, immediate leadership action; and

WHEREAS, this Legislature recognizes the leadership responsibility that the citizens expect of their elected officials.

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

That the Montana Legislature does hereby freeze at the current level the salaries of all elected officials in the State of Montana whose salaries are set by legislative action.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this freeze shall remain in effect until the per capita income of the average Montanan reaches the national average, at which time the salary schedule adopted by this Legislature for those elected officials shall become effective.

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