

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27

INTRODUCED BY SHONTZ, TVEIT

IN THE HOUSE

February 3, 1983	On motion, rules suspended and bill allowed to be introduced.
February 15, 1983	Introduced and referred to Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.
February 18, 1983	Committee recommend bill do pass. Report adopted.
February 19, 1983	Bill printed and placed on members' desks.
	Second reading, do pass.
February 22, 1983	Considered correctly engrossed.
	Third reading, passed. Transmitted to Senate.

IN THE SENATE

March 1, 1983	Introduced and referred to Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.
March 8, 1983	Committee recommend bill be concurred in. Report adopted.
March 10, 1983	Second reading, pass consideration.
March 11, 1983	Second reading, concurred in.

March 14, 1983

Third reading, concurred
in. Ayes, 44; Noes, 5.

IN THE HOUSE

March 14, 1983

Returned to House.

March 15, 1983

Sent to enrolling.

Reported correctly
enrolled.

House JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27

INTRODUCED BY *Trout*

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING CONGRESS TO FULLY FUND SALINE SEEP AND OTHER RESEARCH BY THE NORTHERN PLAINS SOIL AND WATER RESEARCH CENTER.

WHEREAS, the Northern Plains Soil and Water Research Center is the only United States Department of Agriculture research service center in the United States that conducts research in saline seep and the methods of combating this problem; and

WHEREAS, saline seep has removed more than 610,000 acres of cropland from production in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Oklahoma, and Wyoming and 500,000 acres of cropland in the Canadian Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta; and

WHEREAS, saline seep continues to annually remove more than 60,000 acres of cropland from production in the United States and 26,000 acres in Montana alone; and

WHEREAS, in 1981 the six states of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Oklahoma, and Wyoming produced more than \$2,312,800,000 worth of grain that was sold in foreign markets, which sales positively affected this

country's balance of payments; and

WHEREAS, the average annual loss of revenue to American farmers, combined with the average annual trade deficit caused by saline seep, exceeds \$62 million; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Plains Soil and Water Research Center is the only United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, center in the country uniquely suited to conduct spring and winter wheat remote sensing research in conjunction with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and

WHEREAS, remote sensing is vital to the worldwide satellite work of crop screening, small grain analysis, and crop production analysis; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Plains Soil and Water Research Center coordinates its research closely with state agricultural research programs, especially those programs in Montana and North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, the United States Office of Management and Budget has recommended that the Agricultural Research Service receive an increase in its budget, but the funds currently used to operate the Northern Plains Soil and Water Research Center are scheduled to be shifted to other projects in Maine, North Dakota, and Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Management and Budget is recommending that saline seep research at the federal level

1 cease if the Northern Plains Soil and Water Research Center
2 is closed.

3
4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE
5 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

6 That the Secretary of Agriculture and the United States
7 Congress are urged to fully fund the Northern Plains Soil
8 and Water Research Center in order to continue its highly
9 important work of remote sensing and saline seep research,
10 so critical to the farm economy of this State.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State
12 send a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of
13 Agriculture and to the Agriculture Committees of the United
14 States Congress.

-End-

Approved by Committee
on Agriculture, Livestock
& Irrigation

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acres of cropland from production in Montana, North Dakota,
South Dakota, Texas, Oklahoma, and Wyoming and 500,000 acres
of cropland in the Canadian Provinces of Manitoba,
Saskatchewan, and Alberta; and

WHEREAS, saline seep continues to annually remove more
than 60,000 acres of cropland from production in the United
States and 28,000 acres in Montana alone; and

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