

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13

1/23 Introduced
1/23 Referred to Business & Labor
2/23 Hearing
2/23 Committee Report-Bill Pass As Amended
2/27 2nd Reading Pass As Amended
2/27 On Motion Rules Suspended
Placed On 3rd Reading This Day
2/27 3rd Reading Pass

Transmitted to Senate

3/06 Referred to Business & Industry
3/26 Hearing
3/28 Tabled in Committee

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13

INTRODUCED BY *Wendell Dan Brown, J. Schult, Simon R. Padden, Patricia Mercer, M. L. Swift, Thomas WATHE*

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING BURLINGTON NORTHERN RAILROAD TO CONSIDER THE REDUCTION OF FREIGHT RATES WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REDUCED COAL SEVERANCE TAXES BEGINNING JULY 1, 1986.

WHEREAS, Burlington Northern Railroad's dominant and singular position in the transportation industry in Montana assures it a near monopoly in hauling bulk commodities and minerals from this state; and

WHEREAS, Burlington Northern's freight charge is the major component of the cost of Montana coal delivered to Midwest utility customers; and

WHEREAS, the future prosperity of Montana depends upon the development of its mineral resources of which coal is the most abundant and the most easily extracted; and

WHEREAS, increased coal traffic from Montana would enhance the economic status of Burlington Northern while improving Montana business conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that it has a responsibility to enact measures to stimulate industrial development and to create a climate in which Montana

products may compete on more equitable terms in national and international markets.

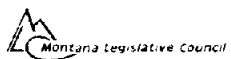
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

(1) That the Burlington Northern Railroad is requested to demonstrate its willingness to encourage the economic progress of the State of Montana by agreeing to refrain from increasing its freight rates for moving coal out of Montana until after July 1, 1991; and

(2) That the Burlington Northern Railroad after July 1, 1991, exercise restraint in raising freight rates for moving coal out of Montana to encourage continued growth of the Montana coal industry; and

(3) That the Secretary of State send a copy of this resolution to the chairman of the Board of Directors of Burlington Northern, Inc., with a request that this resolution be entered into the record of a meeting of the directors.

-End-



-2- INTRODUCED BILL
HJR 13

APPROVED BY COMM. ON
BUSINESS AND LABOR

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13

INTRODUCED BY WINSLOW, D. BROWN, SCHULTZ, SIMON, REHBERG,
PATTERSON, MERCER, DONALDSON, MARKS, SWIFT, THOMAS, NATHE

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING
BURLINGTON NORTHERN RAILROAD TO CONSIDER--THE--REDUCTION--OF
FREIGHT--RATES--WITH--THE--IMPLEMENTATION--OF--REDUCED--COAL
SEVERANCE-TAXES-BEGINNING-JULY-17-1986- ASSIST IN INCREASING
MARKETS FOR MONTANA COAL BY USING RESTRAINT IN RAISING
FREIGHT RATES.

WHEREAS, Burlington Northern Railroad's dominant and
singular position in the transportation industry in Montana
assures it a near monopoly in hauling bulk commodities and
minerals from this state; and

WHEREAS, Burlington Northern's freight charge is the
major component of the cost of Montana coal delivered to
Midwest utility customers; and

WHEREAS, the future prosperity of Montana depends upon
the development of its mineral resources of which coal is
the most abundant and the most easily extracted; and

WHEREAS, increased coal traffic from Montana would
enhance the economic status of Burlington Northern while
improving Montana business conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that it has a
responsibility to enact measures to stimulate industrial
development and to create a climate in which Montana
products may compete on more equitable terms in national and
international markets.

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

(1) That the Burlington Northern Railroad is requested
to demonstrate its willingness to encourage the economic
progress of the State of Montana by agreeing-to-refrain-from
increasing--its-freight-rates-for-moving-coal-out-of-Montana
until-after-July-17-1991 ASSISTING IN EFFORTS TO INCREASE
MARKETS FOR MONTANA COAL; and

(2) That the Burlington Northern Railroad after-July
17-1991, exercise restraint in raising freight rates for
moving coal out of Montana to encourage continued growth of
the Montana coal industry; and

(3) That the Secretary of State send a copy of this
resolution to the chairman of the Board of Directors of
Burlington Northern, Inc., with a request that this
resolution be entered into the record of a meeting of the
directors.

-End-

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13
 2 INTRODUCED BY WINSLOW, D. BROWN, SCHULTZ, SIMON, REHBERG,
 3 PATTERSON, MERCER, DONALDSON, MARKS, SWIFT, THOMAS, NATHE
 4
 5 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
 6 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING
 7 BURLINGTON NORTHERN RAILROAD TO ~~CONSIDER--THE--REDUCTION--OF~~
 8 ~~FREIGHT--RATES--WITH--THE--IMPLEMENTATION--OF--REDUCED--COAL~~
 9 ~~SEVERANCE-TAXES-BEGINNING-JULY-17-1986-~~ ASSIST IN INCREASING
 10 MARKETS FOR MONTANA COAL AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS BY USING
 11 RESTRAINT IN RAISING FREIGHT RATES.

12
 13 WHEREAS, Burlington Northern Railroad's dominant and
 14 singular position in the transportation industry in Montana
 15 assures it a near monopoly in hauling bulk commodities and
 16 minerals from this state; and

17 WHEREAS, Burlington Northern's freight charge is the
 18 major component of the cost of Montana coal delivered to
 19 Midwest utility customers; and

20 WHEREAS, the future prosperity of Montana depends upon
 21 the development of its mineral resources of which coal is
 22 the most abundant and the most easily extracted; and

23 WHEREAS, increased coal traffic from Montana would
 24 enhance the economic status of Burlington Northern while
 25 improving Montana business conditions; and

1 WHEREAS, FREIGHT CHARGES ARE ALSO A MAJOR COMPONENT OF
 2 THE COST OF DELIVERY OF MONTANA AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS; AND
 3 WHEREAS, THE FUTURE PROSPERITY OF MONTANA DEPENDS ON
 4 THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF MONTANA AGRICULTURE; AND
 5 WHEREAS, A COST BREAK ON AGRICULTURAL SHIPMENTS WOULD
 6 STIMULATE THE DEPRESSED FARM AND RANCH ECONOMY; AND

7 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that it has a
 8 responsibility to enact measures to stimulate AGRICULTURAL
 9 AND industrial development and to create a climate in which
 10 Montana products may compete on more equitable terms in
 11 national and international markets.

12
 13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE
 14 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

15 (1) That the Burlington Northern Railroad is requested
 16 to demonstrate its willingness to encourage the economic
 17 progress of the State of Montana by ~~agreeing-to-refrain-from~~
 18 ~~increasing-its-freight-rates-for-moving-coal-out-of--Montana~~
 19 ~~until--after--July--17-1991~~ ASSISTING IN EFFORTS TO INCREASE
 20 MARKETS FOR MONTANA COAL AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS; and

21 (2) That the Burlington Northern Railroad ~~after--July~~
 22 ~~17--1991~~, exercise restraint in raising freight rates for
 23 moving coal AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS out of Montana to
 24 encourage continued growth of the Montana coal industry AND
 25 AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES; and

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1 (3) That the Secretary of State send a copy of this
2 resolution to the chairman of the Board of Directors of
3 Burlington Northern, Inc., with a request that this
4 resolution be entered into the record of a meeting of the
5 directors.

-End-