

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 22

INTRODUCED BY RANEY, HARBIN, ASAY, O'HARA, REAM,
JANET MOORE, HARPER, FRITZ, NATHE, MILES, ADDY,
BRANDEWIE, KITSELMAN, REHBERG, ELLISON, HARP,
COHEN, CHRISTIAENS, MOHAR, ZABROCKI, KEENAN,
BLAYLOCK, BARDANOUE, VAN VALKENBURG, CODY,
MAZUREK, BRADLEY, PATTERSON, GILBERT, SEVERSON,
IVERSON, GOULD, D. BROWN, DARKO, SCHYE, CONOVER,
GAGE, STEPHENS, KRUEGER, SPAETH

IN THE HOUSE

February 8, 1985	Introduced and referred to Committee on Human Services and Aging.
March 7, 1985	Committee recommend bill do pass. Report adopted. Bill printed and placed on members' desks.
March 12, 1985	Second reading, do pass. Considered correctly engrossed.
March 13, 1985	Third reading, passed. Transmitted to Senate.

IN THE SENATE

March 14, 1985	Introduced and referred to Committee on Education and Cultural Resources.
March 26, 1985	Committee recommend bill be concurrent in. Report adopted.
March 29, 1985	Second reading, concurred in.
April 1, 1985	Third reading, concurred in. Ayes, 40; Noes, 8. Returned to House.

IN THE HOUSE

April 2, 1985

Received from Senate.

Sent to enrolling.

Reported correctly enrolled.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 22

James Moore

INTRODUCED BY

Randy Starkins, Gary Otter, Beam

John Fitch, Nathan Miller, Philip Brundwig

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN

INTERIM STUDY ON ALCOHOL REGULATION AND YOUTHS.

WHEREAS, Montana cannot comply with the federal mandate to establish a drinking age of 21 by the October 1986 deadline because it requires a state constitutional amendment; and

WHEREAS, statistics on the 21-year drinking age are contradictory, particularly as they relate to Montana; and

WHEREAS, both national and state studies have shown that when Montana raised its drinking age from 18 years to 19 years in 1979, fatal accidents and nighttime fatal accidents involving 18- and 19-year-old drivers increased substantially; and

WHEREAS, there is considerable evidence that the existence of a uniform drinking age itself causes increased highway deaths among young drivers of that same age; and

WHEREAS, there is some evidence that states with graduated drinking ages, typically 18 years for beer or light wine and 21 years for liquor, have fewer highway

deaths involving young drivers, lower alcoholism rates, and

no association between their drinking ages and increased highway deaths among any age group; and

WHEREAS, national experts have recommended a graduated approach based on decreasing stages of adult supervision of the youthful use of alcohol as the youth approaches the legal drinking age, and the literature on teenage alcohol use strongly shows that family supervision is a key factor in preventing alcohol problems among youths; and

WHEREAS, the federal bill mandating a drinking age of 21 years is currently under challenge by the State of South Dakota (State of South Dakota v. Elizabeth H. Dole, Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation, Civil Action No. 84-5137, U.S. District Court, District of South Dakota, Western Division) as an intrusion on the rights of states to regulate intoxicating liquors as allegedly guaranteed by the Twenty-first Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Montana's current laws on alcohol regulation and youths are often archaic, contradictory, and ineffective; and

WHEREAS, neither these problems of law nor the design of legislation necessary to implement a new drinking age approach, whether graduated or uniform, can possibly be resolved during the 1985 legislative session because of the need for careful study and input from a variety of



1 interests.

2

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

5 That an appropriate interim committee be assigned to:

6 (1) examine current Montana laws on alcohol regulation
7 and youths;

8 (2) examine the various approaches to establishing a
9 drinking age, whether graduated, uniform, or otherwise;

10 (3) obtain testimony and information relevant to the
11 drinking age issue from all parties expressing an interest
12 in the issue and compile a record of such testimony and
13 information;

14 (4) draft legislation to implement its
15 recommendations, if necessary; and

16 (5) report its findings and recommendations to the
17 50th Legislature.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMM. ON HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 22 *Frank Moore*
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Randy Harkin* *Ray Otton* *Dean*
 3 *John Smith* *NATHANIEL Miller* *Alfred Brundage*
 4 *Kirkelmann* *Richard Allison* *HART*
 5 *Christiane Moran* *James Keenan*
 6 *Jaylock* *Bradley*
 7 *Marko* *David Brown* *John* *Cody* *Patricia* *Gilbert*

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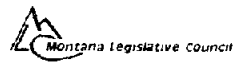
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*KRUEGER
D. B. 2/11*



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REFERENCE BILL

HJR 22

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