

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 26

INTRODUCED BY CONNELLY, SPAETH, KADAS,  
C. SMITH, JONES, LYBECK, B. BROWN, MILES,  
J. BROWN, PISTORIA, KITSELMAN, NELSON

IN THE HOUSE

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| February 11, 1985 | Introduced and referred to<br>Committee on Education and<br>Cultural Resources.                       |
| February 19, 1985 | Committee report bill with no<br>recommendation.<br><br>Bill printed and placed on<br>members' desks. |
| February 21, 1985 | Second reading, do pass.<br><br>Considered correctly<br>engrossed.                                    |
| February 22, 1985 | Third reading, passed.<br><br>Transmitted to Senate.  |

IN THE SENATE

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| March 4, 1985  | Introduced and referred to<br>Committee on Education and<br>Cultural Resources. |
| March 19, 1985 | Committee recommend bill<br>be concurred in. Report<br>adopted.                 |
| March 23, 1985 | Second reading, concurred in.   |
| March 26, 1985 | Third reading, concurred in.<br>Ayes, 43; Noes, 7.<br><br>Returned to House.    |

IN THE HOUSE

March 27, 1985

Received from Senate.

Sent to enrolling.

Reported correctly enrolled.

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 26  
 2 INTRODUCED BY Connelly Spoth Kaden  
 3 C. Smith Sybeck Bob Brown J. Brown Pistonia  
 4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF K. McClain Hills  
 5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE BOARD OF Nelson  
 6 TRUSTEES OF EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE STATE TO APPOINT A  
 7 NONVOTING STUDENT MEMBER TO THE BOARD TO REPRESENT THE  
 8 STUDENT BODY OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.

9  
 10 WHEREAS, the Legislature and the Montana education  
 11 community recognize that the most valuable resource for  
 12 achieving "excellence in education" in Montana is the  
 13 student; and

14 WHEREAS, student representation on local school boards  
 15 has never been implemented on a statewide basis, although  
 16 the Board of Public Education and the Board of Regents  
 17 currently have active student members on their respective  
 18 boards; and

19 WHEREAS, the educational process dominates a large part  
 20 of the life of a school-age person, and as a citizen, that  
 21 person should be allowed representation in the major  
 22 decisions governing the educational process; and

23 WHEREAS, when students feel that they have influence  
 24 over their environment and that their opinions are  
 25 respected, the result is an atmosphere of greater trust,

1 civility, and mutual respect; and

2 WHEREAS, through involvement in the decisionmaking  
 3 process of a school district, the student is not only  
 4 contributing valuable input not otherwise available, but is  
 5 also receiving first-hand knowledge of the governmental  
 6 process and the educational process; and

7 WHEREAS, students are deeply concerned about the  
 8 education they are receiving and wish to present their views  
 9 on educational reform.

10  
 11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE  
 12 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

13 (1) That the Legislature stands strongly in favor of  
 14 student representation on each school district board of  
 15 trustees.

16 (2) That the Legislature urges each school district  
 17 board of trustees in the state to appoint a nonvoting  
 18 student member to the board to represent the student body of  
 19 the school district.

20 (3) That the executive secretary of the Board of  
 21 Public Education, the executive secretary of the Montana  
 22 Association of Student Councils, and a member of the Office  
 23 of Public Instruction meet and confer to define the role of  
 24 the student member by using as a guideline the existing  
 25 policy set by the Board of Public Education regarding

1 student representation.

2 (4) That copies of this resolution be sent by the  
3 Secretary of State to:

4 (a) each local school board chairman in the State of  
5 Montana;

6 (b) each accredited public high school in the State of  
7 Montana; and

8 (c) the Montana Congressional Delegation.

-End-

COMM. ON EDUCATION  
AND CULTURAL RESOURCES  
WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

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 3 L. Smith Jones Lybeck Bob Brown J. Brown Kitzelmon Pistoria  
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INTRODUCED BY *Connolly Spoth Kaden*

*C. Smith* *Lybeck* *Bob Brown* *J. Brown* *Pistone*  
*Kitselman* *Hiles*

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE STATE TO APPOINT A NONVOTING STUDENT MEMBER TO THE BOARD TO REPRESENT THE STUDENT BODY OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.

WHEREAS, the Legislature and the Montana education community recognize that the most valuable resource for achieving "excellence in education" in Montana is the student; and

WHEREAS, student representation on local school boards has never been implemented on a statewide basis, although the Board of Public Education and the Board of Regents currently have active student members on their respective boards; and

WHEREAS, the educational process dominates a large part of the life of a school-age person, and as a citizen, that person should be allowed representation in the major decisions governing the educational process; and

WHEREAS, when students feel that they have influence over their environment and that their opinions are respected, the result is an atmosphere of greater trust,

civility, and mutual respect; and

WHEREAS, through involvement in the decisionmaking process of a school district, the student is not only contributing valuable input not otherwise available, but is also receiving first-hand knowledge of the governmental process and the educational process; and

WHEREAS, students are deeply concerned about the education they are receiving and wish to present their views on educational reform.

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

(1) That the Legislature stands strongly in favor of student representation on each school district board of trustees.

(2) That the Legislature urges each school district board of trustees in the state to appoint a nonvoting student member to the board to represent the student body of the school district.

(3) That the executive secretary of the Board of Public Education, the executive secretary of the Montana Association of Student Councils, and a member of the Office of Public Instruction meet and confer to define the role of the student member by using as a guideline the existing policy set by the Board of Public Education regarding

1 student representation.

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