

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 32

INTRODUCED BY SWITZER, SCHULTZ, ERNST, DEVLIN,
SCHYE, CODY, ASAY, TVEIT, E. SMITH, LANE,
SEVERSON, WEEDING, B. WILLIAMS, H. HAMMOND

IN THE HOUSE

February 15, 1985	Rules suspended to allow introduction.
February 19, 1985	Introduced and referred to Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation. Committee recommend bill do pass. Report adopted. Bill printed and placed on members' desks.
February 21, 1985	Second reading, do pass. Considered correctly engrossed.
February 22, 1985	Third reading, passed. Transmitted to Senate.

IN THE SENATE

March 4, 1985	Introduced and referred to Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.
March 16, 1985	Committee recommend bill be concurred in. Report adopted.
March 21, 1985	Second reading, pass consideration until 64th Legislative Day.
March 27, 1985	Second reading, concurred in.

March 29, 1985

Third reading, concurred in.
Ayes, 47; Noes, 1.

Returned to House.

IN THE HOUSE

March 29, 1985

Received from Senate.

Sent to enrolling.

Reported correctly enrolled.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 32

INTRODUCED BY *Senator Robert Ernst Archie Selby*

Today Aray Truitt E. Smith LANE Samson
Walter B. Walker W. Hammond
A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THAT
LIVESTOCK GRAZING FEES CHARGED ON THE CHARLES M. RUSSELL
WILDLIFE REFUGE BE MAINTAINED AT THE CURRENT RATE.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is
proposing to increase grazing fees on the Charles M. Russell
Wildlife Refuge from \$4.61 to \$5.61 per animal unit month
(AUM) in 1985 and \$8.75 per AUM by 1987; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, the grazing fee on both land
administered by the Bureau of Land Management and on the
Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge was \$2.36 per AUM; and

WHEREAS, the grazing fee on land administered by the
Bureau of Land Management has since decreased to \$1.35 per
AUM, based on a formula that includes the cost of
production, market price of beef, and a forage value index;
and

WHEREAS, the grazing fee on state lands is \$2.74 per
AUM, based on a formula that includes the market price of
beef; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the general plight of
agriculture resulting from low commodity prices, high

production costs, and an agricultural credit crisis, the
Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge area is in the midst of
one of the most severe droughts in the history of the area;
and

WHEREAS, maintaining the present grazing fee is one
small, relatively painless step the federal government can
take to ease the current plight of the livestock industry.

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

That the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is requested to
maintain the current rate of grazing fees charged on the
Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State
send a copy of this resolution to the manager of the Charles
M. Russell Wildlife Refuge, the Secretary of the Interior,
and each member of Montana's Congressional Delegation.

-End-



INTRODUCED BIL
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APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
ON AGRICULTURE LIVESTOCK
& IRRIGATION

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3 *Today Aray Truller E. Smith LANE Samsom*
4 *Walter J. Walker* *John Hammond*
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