

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 51

INTRODUCED BY CONNELLY, LYBECK, JONES, C. SMITH, B. BROWN, HARDING, NELSON, KOEHNKE, O'CONNELL, PECK, HARP, ZABROCKI, BRANDEWIE, HARRINGTON, J. HAMMOND, D. BROWN, HIMSL, CODY, ASAY, FRITZ, SIMON, SCHULTZ, DEVLIN, GILBERT, ELLISON, KELLER, DONALDSON, MENAHAN, NISBET, ABRAMS, QUILICI, DANIELS, PAVLOVICH, SPAETH, IVERSON, VINCENT, MANUEL, MARKS, MONTAYNE, MILLER, HOWE, BERGENE, M. WILLIAMS, MCCORMICK, BACHINI, PISTORIA, HAND, LORY, EUDAILY, THOFT, ELLERD, MERCER, PHILLIPS, PATTERSON, COMPTON, JENKINS, SWITZER, GOULD, PETERSON, KRUEGER, HARPER, BLAYLOCK, YELLOWTAIL, LANE, B. WILLIAMS, CONOVER, REGAN, ECK, NEUMAN, CHRISTIAENS, HAFFEY, JACOBSON, VAN VALKENBURG, TOWE, WEEDING, NORMAN, FULLER, HAGER, SEVERSON, THAYER, ANDERSON, STEPHENS, CRIPPEN, GAGE, KOLSTAD, MANNING, STORY, KEATING, HIRSCH, COHEN, GARCIA

IN THE HOUSE

April 4, 1985

On motion, rules suspended to allow introduction of HJR 51.

April 8, 1985

Introduced and referred to Committee on Business and Labor.

On motion by Chief Sponsor, Senators Blaylock, Yellowtail, Lane, B. Williams, Conover, Regan, Eck, Neuman, Christiaens, Haffey, Jacobson, Van Valkenburg, Towe, Weeding, Norman, Fuller, Hager, Severson, Thayer, Anderson, Stephens, Crippen, Gage, Kolstad, Manning, Story, Keating, and Hirsch were added as sponsors.

April 9, 1985

Committee recommend bill do pass. Report adopted.

Bill printed and placed on members' desks.

April 10, 1985 Second reading, do pass.  
April 11, 1985 Considered correctly engrossed.  
April 12, 1985 Third reading, passed.  
Transmitted to Senate.

IN THE SENATE

April 13, 1985 On motion, rules suspended to accept. Motion adopted.  
April 15, 1985 Introduced and referred to Committee on Business and Industry.  
April 17, 1985 On motion, rules temporarily suspended for the purpose of allowing all bills passed on second reading on the 85th Legislative Day to be advanced to third reading that same day.  
April 18, 1985 Committee recommend bill be concurred in. Report adopted.  
April 19, 1985 Second reading, concurred in.  
Third reading, concurred in.  
Ayes, 48; Noes, 0.  
Returned to House.

IN THE HOUSE

April 19, 1985 Received from Senate.  
April 20, 1985 Sent to enrolling.  
Reported correctly enrolled.



LC 1953/01

1 fair, just, and reasonable rates for Northwest aluminum  
2 producers to allow the Northwest aluminum industry to  
3 compete effectively in the world aluminum market.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution  
5 be sent to the Administrator of the Bonneville Power  
6 Administration, to the Governors of the States of Montana,  
7 Idaho, Washington, and Oregon, and to the Congressional  
8 Delegation of the State of Montana.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMM. ON  
BUSINESS AND LABOR

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5   ASAY, FRITZ, SIMON, SCHULTZ, DEVLIN, GILBERT, ELLISON,  
6   KELLER, DONALDSON, MENAHAN, NISBET, ABRAMS, QUILICI,  
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10   THOFT, ELLERD, MERCER, PHILLIPS, PATTERSON, COMPTON,  
11   JENKINS, SWITZER, GOULD, PETERSON, KRUEGER, HARPER,  
12   BLAYLOCK, YELLOWTAIL, LANE, B. WILLIAMS, CONOVER,  
13   REGAN, ECK, NEUMAN, CHRISTIAENS, HAFFEY, JACOBSON,  
14   VAN VALKENBURG, TOWE, WEEDING, NORMAN, FULLER, HAGER,  
15   SEVERSON, THAYER, ANDERSON, STEPHENS, CRIPPEN, GAGE,  
16   KOLSTAD, MANNING, STORY, KEATING, HIRSCH  
17  
18   A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
19   REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE  
20   BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION TO ESTABLISH FAIR, JUST, AND  
21   REASONABLE POWER RATES FOR THE NORTHWEST ALUMINUM INDUSTRY  
22   TO ALLOW THE INDUSTRY TO MEET COMPETITION IN THE WORLD  
23   MARKET.  
24  
25   WHEREAS, the continued viability of the Northwest

1   aluminum industry is essential to the economic stability of  
2   Montana and the region; and  
3        WHEREAS, in 1983 the Northwest aluminum industry  
4   provided 10,500 jobs, paid \$28,000,000 in state and local  
5   taxes, provided \$450,000,000 in revenues to the Bonneville  
6   Power Administration (BPA), and spent \$409,000,000 for  
7   freight and material purchases; and  
8        WHEREAS, the Columbia Falls smelter directly employs  
9   1,000 persons and provides an annual payroll of  
10   approximately \$30,000,000; purchases almost \$7,000,000 worth  
11   of supplies and services from local vendors; pays \$2,650,000  
12   in taxes to Flathead County, which is 11% of the total  
13   county taxes; and makes other substantial contributions to  
14   the economies of Montana and the region generally; and  
15        WHEREAS, the aluminum industry is paying 800% more for  
16   electricity than it did 7 years ago; and  
17        WHEREAS, the aluminum industry is in serious economic  
18   difficulty because of competition from foreign aluminum  
19   manufacturers and domestic aluminum producers who pay  
20   significantly lower power rates than those paid by Northwest  
21   smelters; and  
22        WHEREAS, power rates charged to Northwest aluminum  
23   producers are 50% higher than other free-world aluminum  
24   smelter prices for power; and  
25        WHEREAS, over the past few years, the price of aluminum

1 has fluctuated and declined; and

2 WHEREAS, in 1983 the aluminum industry paid 35.5% of  
3 the BPA's revenues but received only 29.5% of the power  
4 provided by the BPA; and

5 WHEREAS, without the aluminum industry's contribution  
6 to the BPA revenue requirement, power rates for all other  
7 customers would increase substantially; and

8 WHEREAS, loss of the region's aluminum producers would  
9 devastate the economies of Montana and of the Pacific  
10 Northwest.

11

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

14 That the Bonneville Power Administration establish  
15 fair, just, and reasonable rates for Northwest aluminum  
16 producers to allow the Northwest aluminum industry to  
17 compete effectively in the world aluminum market.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution  
19 be sent to the Administrator of the Bonneville Power  
20 Administration, to the Governors of the States of Montana,  
21 Idaho, Washington, and Oregon, and to the Congressional  
22 Delegation of the State of Montana.

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A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
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 BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION TO ESTABLISH FAIR, JUST, AND  
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 TO ALLOW THE INDUSTRY TO MEET COMPETITION IN THE WORLD  
 MARKET.

WHEREAS, the continued viability of the Northwest

aluminum industry is essential to the economic stability of  
 Montana and the region; and

WHEREAS, in 1983 the Northwest aluminum industry  
 provided 10,500 jobs, paid \$28,000,000 in state and local  
 taxes, provided \$450,000,000 in revenues to the Bonneville  
 Power Administration (BPA), and spent \$409,000,000 for  
 freight and material purchases; and

WHEREAS, the Columbia Falls smelter directly employs  
 1,000 persons and provides an annual payroll of  
 approximately \$30,000,000; purchases almost \$7,000,000 worth  
 of supplies and services from local vendors; pays \$2,650,000  
 in taxes to Flathead County, which is 11% of the total  
 county taxes; and makes other substantial contributions to  
 the economies of Montana and the region generally; and

WHEREAS, the aluminum industry is paying 800% more for  
 electricity than it did 7 years ago; and

WHEREAS, the aluminum industry is in serious economic  
 difficulty because of competition from foreign aluminum  
 manufacturers and domestic aluminum producers who pay  
 significantly lower power rates than those paid by Northwest  
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