

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 28

2/21 Introduced  
2/22 Referred to Agriculture, Livestock, & Irrig.  
Died in Committee

*Senate* JOINT RESOLUTION NO. *28*  
 INTRODUCED BY *William LANE Galt* *H. Hammond*  
 BY REQUEST OF THE SENATE AGRICULTURE, *AKKESTAD*  
 LIVESTOCK, AND IRRIGATION COMMITTEE *Conover*  
*Bergstrom*  
*Sybilik*  
*Barnson*

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 6 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
 7 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THAT  
 8 LIVESTOCK GRAZING FEES CHARGED ON THE CHARLES M. RUSSELL  
 9 WILDLIFE REFUGE BE MAINTAINED AT THE CURRENT RATE.

10  
 11 WHEREAS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is  
 12 proposing to increase grazing fees on the Charles M. Russell  
 13 Wildlife Refuge from \$4.61 to \$5.61 per animal unit month  
 14 (AUM) in 1985 and \$8.75 per AUM by 1987; and

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

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

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

1 WHEREAS, in addition to the general plight of  
 2 agriculture resulting from low commodity prices, high  
 3 production costs, and an agricultural credit crisis, the  
 4 Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge area is in the midst of  
 5 one of the most severe droughts in the history of the area;  
 6 and

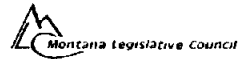
7 WHEREAS, maintaining the present grazing fee is one  
 8 small, relatively painless step the federal government can  
 9 take to ease the current plight of the livestock industry.

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

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

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

-End-



-2- INTRODUCED BILL  
 SJR 28