

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 37

INTRODUCED BY HAGER

IN THE SENATE

March 30, 1985	Introduced and referred to Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Safety.
April 5, 1985	Committee recommend bill do pass. Report adopted.
April 8, 1985	Bill printed and placed on members' desks.
April 9, 1985	Second reading, do pass.
April 10, 1985	Considered correctly engrossed.
April 11, 1985	Third reading, passed. Ayes, 50; Noes, 0.
	Transmitted to House.

IN THE HOUSE

April 12, 1985	Introduced and referred to Committee on Business and Labor.
April 15, 1985	Committee recommend bill be concurred in. Report adopted.
April 16, 1985	Second reading, concurred in.
April 18, 1985	Third reading, concurred in. Returned to Senate.

IN THE SENATE

April 18, 1985

Received from House.

April 19, 1985

Sent to enrolling.

Reported correctly enrolled.

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3  
 4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
 5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN  
 6 INTERIM STUDY TO EVALUATE THE FUNCTION OF LICENSING BOARDS  
 7 FOR HEALTH-RELATED PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS AND TO MAKE  
 8 RECOMMENDATIONS ON REDUCING THE NUMBER OF SUCH BOARDS.

9  
 10 WHEREAS, the Montana Department of Commerce administers  
 11 separate licensing boards for 18 health-related professions  
 12 and occupations; and

13 WHEREAS, six of these boards issued or renewed  
 14 approximately 25,000 licenses in 1984 while the other 12  
 15 issued or renewed only 2,700 licenses; and

16 WHEREAS, each licensing board incurs costs for board  
 17 meetings, legal assistance, conducting examinations, issuing  
 18 renewal notices and licenses, and bookkeeping and general  
 19 administration, which are borne by licensees and passed on  
 20 to their clients; and

21 WHEREAS, significant savings in the cost of licensing  
 22 members of health-related professions and occupations could  
 23 be achieved by creating a board of allied health  
 24 professionals to license members of the smaller groups.

25

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

3 (1) That an appropriate interim committee be assigned  
 4 to study the role and function of the 18 boards established  
 5 to license and regulate members of health-related  
 6 professions and occupations.

7 (2) That the committee include in its study a  
 8 consideration of at least the following:

9 (a) the number of licensees served by each board and  
 10 the probability that this number will change substantially  
 11 in the next several years;

12 (b) the specific duties other than licensing performed  
 13 by each board and the number of full-time equivalent  
 14 employees required to perform these duties;

15 (c) the extent to which standards for licensing are  
 16 set and administered by state or national professional  
 17 organizations;

18 (d) the extent to which the licensing and regulating  
 19 functions assigned to each board can be carried out by  
 20 persons who are not members of the licensees' occupation or  
 21 profession;

22 (e) the feasibility of combining the boards serving  
 23 relatively few licensees into one or more comprehensive  
 24 boards; and

25 (f) an estimate of the cost savings that could be

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1 achieved by combining these boards into one or more  
2 comprehensive boards.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee report its  
4 findings to the 50th Legislature, together with  
5 recommendations for legislation, if any, necessary to  
6 implement its findings.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE  
ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE  
& SAFETY

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