

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 18

INTRODUCED BY CONNELLY, B. BROWN, LYBECK, C. SMITH,  
BRANDEWIE, HARP, HARDING, NELSON, JONES, COHEN

IN THE HOUSE

JANUARY 28, 1987                   INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE  
ON EDUCATION & CULTURAL RESOURCES.

FEBRUARY 14, 1987                   COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL  
DO PASS AS AMENDED. REPORT ADOPTED.

FEBRUARY 16, 1987                   PRINTING REPORT.

FEBRUARY 17, 1987                   SECOND READING, DO PASS.

FEBRUARY 18, 1987                   ENGROSSING REPORT.

                                      THIRD READING, PASSED.  
                                      AYES, 77; NOES, 12.

                                      TRANSMITTED TO SENATE.

IN THE SENATE

FEBRUARY 19, 1987                   INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE  
ON EDUCATION & CULTURAL RESOURCES.

MARCH 17, 1987                    COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL BE  
CONCURRED IN. REPORT ADOPTED.

MARCH 20, 1987                    SECOND READING, CONCURRED IN.

MARCH 23, 1987                    THIRD READING, CONCURRED IN.  
                                      AYES, 46; NOES, 2.

                                      RETURNED TO HOUSE.

IN THE HOUSE

MARCH 23, 1987                    RECEIVED FROM SENATE.

                                      SENT TO ENROLLING.

1                    *House* JOINT RESOLUTION NO. *18*  
 2    INTRODUCED BY *Connolly Bob Brown Lyub C. Smith*  
 3    *Bran Lewis Harold Heidering Nelson Jones*

4    A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
 5    REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA DIRECTING THE OFFICE  
 6    OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO INVESTIGATE THE SAFETY OF SCHOOL  
 7    BUSES.

8  
 9            WHEREAS, on January 21, 1984, a 65-passenger school bus  
 10    returning members of the Whitefish wrestling team from a  
 11    meet in Browning crashed on Montana Highway 2 between Essex  
 12    and West Glacier; and

13           WHEREAS, nine persons aboard the bus, including four  
 14    students, the head wrestling coach and his wife, the  
 15    assistant coach, an infant, and the bus driver died upon  
 16    impact in that accident; and

17           WHEREAS, the nine persons killed in this 1984 accident  
 18    were riding in a school bus that was not equipped with  
 19    seatbelts; and

20           WHEREAS, the tragic loss of these nine lives served to  
 21    focus the public's attention on the need to ensure the  
 22    safety of other students, faculty members, and individuals  
 23    who depend on school buses to travel to school-related  
 24    extracurricular activities across Montana; and

25           WHEREAS, studies completed in an attempt to determine

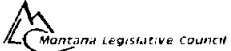
1    whether the use of seatbelts by school bus passengers  
 2    reduces injury or saves lives have resulted in inconclusive  
 3    evidence.

4  
 5    NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE  
 6    OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

7            (1) That the Office of Public Instruction be directed  
 8    to investigate the safety of school buses in Montana to seek  
 9    ways to ensure passenger safety.

10           (2) That the Office of Public Instruction be urged to  
 11    take steps necessary to ensure that all new and existing  
 12    school buses in Montana meet minimum federal safety  
 13    regulations.

-End-



-2-            INTRODUCED BILL  
                   *HJR 18*

APPROVED BY COMM. ON EDUCATION  
AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

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6   REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA DIRECTING THE OFFICE  
7   OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AND THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TO  
8   INVESTIGATE THE SAFETY OF SCHOOL BUSES.  
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10       WHEREAS, on January 21, 1984, a 65-passenger school bus  
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22   focus the public's attention on the need to ensure the  
23   safety of other students, faculty members, and individuals  
24   who depend on school buses to travel to school-related  
25   extracurricular activities across Montana; and

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9   BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION be directed to investigate the  
10   safety of school buses in Montana to seek ways to ensure  
11   passenger safety.  
12       (2) That the Office of Public Instruction AND THE  
13   BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION be urged to take steps necessary  
14   to ensure that all new and existing school buses in Montana  
15   meet minimum federal safety regulations.

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