HJR 29 INTRODUCED BY HARPER, ET AL. RESOLUTION ASKING REVERSAL OF NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND TRADE POLICIES

- 2/13 INTRODUCED
- 2/13 REFERRED TO STATE ADMINISTRATION
- 2/19 HEARING
- 2/19 COMMITTEE REPORT--BILL NOT PASSED
- 2/20 ADVERSE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED 48 42

1

23

24

25

THE UNITED STATES WHEREAS, massive trade deficits. Including more \$173 billion in 1986, have transformed the United States in 10 11 4 years from a net creditor nation to the world's largest 12 debtor nation; and WHEREAS, each \$1 billion of trade deficit caused the 13 loss of 25,000 jobs in the United States and resulted in 2.3 14 million American workers losing manufacturing jobs in 1984 15 and more than 11.5 million workers losing jobs because of 16 17 plant closures and layoffs between 1979 and 1984; and 18 WHEREAS, the United States budget deficit was a record 19 \$221 billion in 1986 and is expected to exceed \$190 billion in 1987 and to reach a cumulative total national debt of 20 21 \$2.5 trillion by the end of 1988; and 22 WHEREAS. the federal deficit incurred since 1981

created a burden for our children and grandchildren greater

than the combined national debts incurred by every United

States President from George Washington through Jimmy

Carter; and WHEREAS, the devastating effects of these statistics 3 are shown by the United States' annual unemployment rate that remains at about 7%, with approximately 8 million Americans unemployed and another 6.5 million forced to accept part-time employment or, because of discouraging prospects, to discontinue seeking employment; and 8 WHEREAS, earnings in more than half of the 8 million jobs created between 1979 and 1980 were less than \$7,000 a year, or at least \$3,000 below the poverty level: and 10 WHEREAS, a recent congressional study revealed that the 11 12 harsh realities of poverty are caused by low-wage jobs rather than by declining family values; and 13 14 WHEREAS, deteriorating economic conditions caused 138 bank failures in the United States in 1986, the most in any 15 16 year since the depression year of 1934; and 17 WHEREAS, these unconscionable figures are the direct 18 result of our failed national economic and international 19 trade policies. 20 21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE

OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That Congress and the President of the United States be

(1) reverse their courses on trade and

22

23

24

25

urged to:

Montana Legislative Council

INTRODUCED BILL

economic

- 1 policies by promoting fair trade rather than free trade
- 2 policies to protect American jobs, family farms, main street
- 3 businesses, and the American standard of living;
- 4 (2) adopt domestic policies to encourage full
- 5 employment of all individuals who wish to work, at decent
- 6 wages and under decent conditions; and
- 7 (3) reverse the misguided agricultural policies that
 - are leading to the demise of family farms and ranches all
- 9 across America.

8

- 10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State
- 11 send a copy of this resolution to the President of the
- 12 United States, the Speaker of the United States House of
- 13 Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United States
- 14 Senate, and to each member of the Montana Congressional
- 15 Delegation.

-End-