

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 36

INTRODUCED BY SWIFT, NATHE, SPAETH,
MANUEL, BOYLAN

BY REQUEST OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

IN THE HOUSE

FEBRUARY 19, 1987	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK & IRRIGATION.
FEBRUARY 21, 1987	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL DO PASS. REPORT ADOPTED.
	PRINTING REPORT.
FEBRUARY 23, 1987	SECOND READING, DO PASS.
FEBRUARY 24, 1987	ENGROSSING REPORT.
	THIRD READING, PASSED. AYES, 94; NOES, 3.
	TRANSMITTED TO SENATE.

IN THE SENATE

MARCH 2, 1987	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK & IRRIGATION.
MARCH 14, 1987	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL BE CONCURRED IN. REPORT ADOPTED.
MARCH 18, 1987	SECOND READING, CONCURRED IN.
MARCH 20, 1987	THIRD READING, CONCURRED IN. AYES, 49; NOES, 0.
	RETURNED TO HOUSE.

IN THE HOUSE

MARCH 21, 1987	RECEIVED FROM SENATE.
	SENT TO ENROLLING.

1 House JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 36
2 INTRODUCED BY Swift NATH. Spence
3 BY REQUEST OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE Boyer
4

5 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
6 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA TO ENCOURAGE THE
7 SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO
8 AMEND RULES CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY FOR CROP BENEFITS OF
9 PRODUCERS OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES DERIVED FROM HIGHLY
10 ERODIBLE LAND OR CONVERTED WETLAND.
11

12 WHEREAS, the United States Congress has enacted the
13 Food Security Act of 1985 that includes, among other things,
14 a policy discouraging the breaking of highly erodible land
15 and the conversion of wetlands; and

16 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture
17 has adopted federal regulations concerning the eligibility
18 for crop benefits of producers of agricultural commodities
19 derived from highly erodible land or converted wetland (51
20 Fed. Reg. 23,502, et seq. (1986) (to be codified at 7 CFR
21 12.1, et seq.)); and

22 WHEREAS, federal crop benefits received by the State of
23 Montana comprise a significant amount of financial support
24 for Montana public schools; and

25 WHEREAS, the Food Security Act of 1985 does not deny to

1 the State of Montana such crop benefits; and

2 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture
3 has misinterpreted the applicable statutes and has
4 interpreted the regulations so as to totally deny the State
5 of Montana all of its federal crop benefits, resulting in a
6 possible loss of from \$1 million to \$2.5 million to Montana
7 public schools; and

8 WHEREAS, the State of Montana has requested the
9 Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture,
10 pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553, to amend these rules so as to
11 clarify the eligibility of the State of Montana to continue
12 to receive its federal crop benefits.

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

16 That the Secretary of the United States Department of
17 Agriculture be encouraged to amend the federal rules that
18 implement the provisions of subtitles B and C of Title XII
19 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (Pub. L. No. 99-198),
20 pertaining to highly erodible land conservation, so as to
21 clarify the right of the State of Montana to receive federal
22 crop benefits.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State
24 send copies of this resolution to the members of Montana's
25 Congressional Delegation and to the Secretary of the United

LC 1800/01

1 States Department of Agriculture.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
ON AGRICULTURE LIVESTOCK
& IRRIGATION

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HJR 0036/02

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