

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 6

Introduced by Pavlovich, et al.

1/22	Introduced
1/22	Referred to State Administration
1/22	First Reading
2/02	Hearing
2/03	Committee Report--Bill Passed
2/06	2nd Reading Passed
2/09	3rd Reading Passed
	Transmitted to Senate
2/11	First Reading
2/11	Referred to Public Health, Welfare & Safety
3/12	Hearing
3/26	Committee Report--Bill Concurred
3/27	2nd Reading Concurred
3/29	3rd Reading Concurred
	Returned to House
4/06	Signed by Speaker
4/07	Signed by President
4/12	Filed with Secretary of State

1 House JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6 Reignier  
2 INTRODUCED BY Robert Mendenhall  
3

4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING IMMEDIATE  
6 CONSTRUCTION OF NURSING HOME FACILITIES AT THE VETERANS'  
7 CENTER AT FORT HARRISON, MONTANA.  
8

9 WHEREAS, the population of elderly citizens of the  
10 United States is growing steadily, and this growth is  
11 reflected in the increased number of aged veterans of  
12 military service; and

13 WHEREAS, the State of Montana sent more of its citizens  
14 per capita into military service during World War I, World  
15 War II, the Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam War than any  
16 other state; and

17 WHEREAS, the need for care for elderly citizens,  
18 including veterans, is an ever more urgent concern that is  
19 particularly manifested in the increasing need among  
20 veterans, because of their advancing age, for nursing home  
21 beds; and

22 WHEREAS, the 26 nursing home beds in the Veterans'  
23 Center at Miles City are the only nursing home beds  
24 available in Montana to answer the needs of the 108,000  
25 veterans who live in Montana; and

1 WHEREAS, there are no other veterans' nursing home bed  
2 facilities within 500 miles of the Veterans' Center at Fort  
3 Harrison, Montana; and

4 WHEREAS, in July 1980, 361 additional veterans in 65  
5 towns and cities in the Veterans' Medical and Regional  
6 Office Center's Catchment Area were identified by name,  
7 address, and diagnosis for which the veteran required  
8 nursing home care; and

9 WHEREAS, this deplorable lack of nursing home beds has  
10 been ignored by federal officials for the past 33 years, and  
11 the situation is acute, disgraceful, and costly; and

12 WHEREAS, responsible federal officials of the veterans'  
13 central office have ignored the need for additional nursing  
14 home beds and have delayed the commencement of construction  
15 at the Veterans' Center at Fort Harrison, Montana, of  
16 nursing home facilities, which construction was first  
17 scheduled to begin in 1979 and has since been postponed  
18 approximately six times, with the latest target date having  
19 been 1992 or some time in the future; and

20 WHEREAS, more than 50% of Montana's veterans reside  
21 within 135 miles of the Veterans' Center at Fort Harrison,  
22 Montana, making it the ideal central location for the  
23 nursing home, which common sense should dictate.  
24

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE

1 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

2 That Montana's Congressional Delegation be urged to  
3 press for immediate construction of adequate nursing home  
4 facilities adjacent to the Veterans' Center at Fort  
5 Harrison, Montana, in order that Montana's battle-scarred  
6 and disabled veterans will not be forced to sell their homes  
7 and exhaust their savings to pay out-of-pocket costs for  
8 care that they are entitled to receive from the government  
9 they served.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send  
11 copies of this resolution to the President of the United  
12 States, the Secretary of the Department of Veterans'  
13 Affairs, each member of Montana's Congressional Delegation,  
14 the presiding officers of the Committees on Veterans'  
15 Affairs of the United States Senate and House of  
16 Representatives, and the Governor of the State of Montana.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE  
ON STATE ADMINISTRATION1 House JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6 Reignier2 INTRODUCED BY Carlton Mendenhall

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13 WHEREAS, the State of Montana sent more of its citizens  
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15 War II, the Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam War than any  
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16 Representatives, and the Governor of the State of Montana.

-End-

1 *House* JOINT RESOLUTION NO. *6* *Griffinich*  
2 INTRODUCED BY *Robert Mendenhall*  
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5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING IMMEDIATE  
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2 INTRODUCED BY PAVLOVICH, MENAHAN, LYNCH, PIPINICH

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