

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 21

Introduced by Whalen, et al.

2/15	Introduced
2/15	Referred to Judiciary
2/15	First Reading
2/17	Hearing
2/18	Committee Report--Bill Passed
2/20	2nd Reading Passed
2/23	3rd Reading Passed
	Transmitted to Senate
3/01	First Reading
3/01	Referred to Judiciary
3/12	Hearing
3/15	Tabled in Committee

1 House JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 21
2 INTRODUCED BY Whalen R. Vogel
3
4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE
6 ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO
7 DISCONTINUE THE PRACTICE OF GRANTING THE AMERICAN BAR
8 ASSOCIATION THE PRIVILEGE OF RECOMMENDING JUDICIAL NOMINEES
9 TO FEDERAL JUDGESHIPS.

10
11 WHEREAS, the Attorney General of the United States of
12 America grants the American Bar Association (ABA) the
13 privilege of recommending judicial nominees to federal
14 judgeships; and

15 WHEREAS, persons recommended by the ABA are usually
16 nominated and persons not recommended by the ABA are rarely
17 nominated; and

18 WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States of
19 America does not grant or imply a formal role for the ABA or
20 any other private interest group in the process of selecting
21 federal judges; and

22 WHEREAS, the ABA is not elected by or accountable to the
23 people; and

24 WHEREAS, the ABA, which represents attorneys, counts
25 among its members less than half of the attorneys in the

1 United States; and

2 WHEREAS, the ABA has taken positions on numerous
3 important political and social issues, such as abortion, the
4 Equal Rights Amendment, homosexuality, gun control,
5 affirmative action, wiretapping and other privacy laws, and
6 treaties.

7
8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE
9 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

10 That the Attorney General of the United States of
11 America is requested to discontinue the practice of granting
12 the American Bar Association the privilege of recommending
13 judicial nominees to federal judgeships.

14 That the Secretary of State send a copy of this
15 resolution to the Attorney General of the United States of
16 America.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
ON JUDICIARY

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