

## 1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2

2 INTRODUCED BY HALLIGAN

3  
4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF  
5 MONTANA SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF A NATIONAL FOREST SERVICE  
6 MUSEUM TO BE LOCATED AT MISSOULA, MONTANA.  
7

8 WHEREAS, the vital role of our nation's forests was officially recognized in 1891 when the first  
9 federal forest reserves were set aside by Congress and the forerunner of the national forest system was  
10 established; and

11 WHEREAS, the people of Montana have long enjoyed both tangible and intangible benefits from the  
12 presence and management activities of the USDA Forest Service, which is distinct from most federal and  
13 other governmental agencies in the strength and diversity of its history and traditions; and

14 WHEREAS, as we celebrate nearly a century of USDA Forest Service operations, it is proposed that  
15 a National Forest Service Museum be established and operated in Missoula, Montana; and

16 WHEREAS, the primary purpose of this proposed national museum will be to present the work of  
17 the great pioneers of American forestry by collecting and exhibiting historical papers, photographs, artifacts,  
18 and other items that represent the entire rich national heritage of the USDA Forest Service in the context  
19 of a "living museum", with facilities for educational displays portraying the management and growth of  
20 forest resources across the United States; and

21 WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the museum will provide the national forum for exhibits and  
22 programs of many other forestry-related museums and Forest Service interpretive facilities throughout the  
23 United States; and

24 WHEREAS, the Forest Service Northern Region has designated the museum as an authorized federal  
25 repository for federal property, including archives, artifacts, and other historical items; and

26 WHEREAS, endorsement of and support for the museum, including providing information,  
27 architectural review, and comparable activities, have been pledged by the Chief of the Forest Service; and

28 WHEREAS, the museum will be established and operated by a private, nonprofit corporation that  
29 is already established under Montana law and governed by an independent board of directors and that will  
30 cooperate closely with the USDA Forest Service and other entities, such as the Smithsonian Institution, and

1 provide a nonpolluting, substantial economic development opportunity within Montana; and

2 WHEREAS, Missoula is at the heart of the Forest Service Northern Region encompassing 15 national  
3 forests, 4 national grasslands, and 28 million acres of forest, including 5 million acres of classified  
4 wilderness, has been the center for forest industry for over a century, and is the site of the University of  
5 Montana School of Forestry and the center of forestry activities of the Montana Department of State Lands;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, the Forest Service Northern Region hosts 13 million visitor days annually, including more  
8 than 1.6 million people who annually pass through Missoula en route between Glacier and Yellowstone  
9 National Parks, providing a substantial base for visitation to a museum established in Missoula; and

10 WHEREAS, a 36-acre site located on federal land northwest of the Missoula International Airport  
11 has been obtained through a special use permit from the Forest Service; and

12 WHEREAS, the U.S. Internal Revenue Service has granted the museum tax-exempt status under  
13 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) as a private, nonprofit corporation, and large-scale fundraising has begun, with  
14 contributions solicited from local, state, and federal governmental sources, from private and corporate  
15 foundations, and from individual citizens throughout the United States; and

16 WHEREAS, amid current but not unprecedented controversy surrounding the forest management  
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18 among all segments of the public and public agencies, including the USDA Forest Service; and

19 WHEREAS, because of the proposed museum's independent, privately operated status and historical  
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21 interests; and

22 WHEREAS, the Montana Congressional Delegation and three successive Montana Governors have  
23 supported the establishment and operation of the proposed museum.

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25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
26 STATE OF MONTANA:

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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that through this resolution, the Senate and House of Representatives

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send copies of this resolution to the  
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APPROVED BY COMM. ON  
NATURAL RESOURCES

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SPONSORS ADDED

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3 KADAS, BRAINARD, DENNY, MCKEE, VAN VALKENBURG, PIPINICH, WELDON, STANG, KLAMPE,  
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13

-END-



## HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

January 31, 1995

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Natural Resources report that **Senate Joint Resolution SJR2** (first reading copy -- white) be concurred in as amended.

Signed:   
*Dick Knox, Chair*

And, that such amendments read:

Carried by: Rep. Ellingson

1. Page 3, line 5.  
Following: "advice"  
Strike: "and" through "assistance"

-END-

1/31  


Committee Vote:  
Yes 7, No 0

**SJ 2**

**HOUSE**  
260857SC.Hdh

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12 WHEREAS, a 36-acre site located on federal land northwest of the Missoula International Airport  
13 has been obtained through a special use permit from the Forest Service; and

14 WHEREAS, the U.S. Internal Revenue Service has granted the museum tax-exempt status under  
15 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) as a private, nonprofit corporation, and large-scale fundraising has begun, with  
16 contributions solicited from local, state, and federal governmental sources, from private and corporate  
17 foundations, and from individual citizens throughout the United States; and

18 WHEREAS, amid current but not unprecedented controversy surrounding the forest management  
19 activities of the USDA Forest Service, there is broad public recognition of the need for continuing dialogue  
20 among all segments of the public and public agencies, including the USDA Forest Service; and

21 WHEREAS, because of the proposed museum's independent, privately operated status and historical  
22 focus, it offers an appealing opportunity for continuing dialogue and collaboration among many diverse  
23 interests; and

24 WHEREAS, the Montana Congressional Delegation and three successive Montana Governors have  
25 supported the establishment and operation of the proposed museum.

26  
27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
28 STATE OF MONTANA:

29 That the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Montana commend the concept of  
30 the establishment and operation of a private nonprofit National Forest Service Museum in Missoula,

1 Montana.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that through this resolution, the Senate and House of Representatives  
3 of the State of Montana encourage strong and continuing cooperation between the proposed museum and  
4 existing Montana institutions, including the Montana Historical Society, the Museum of the Rockies, and  
5 any other state governmental agencies that could provide advice and ~~other appropriate assistance.~~

6 ~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislature stay apprised of the development of the museum~~  
7 ~~project and, if future opportunities arise for the state to contribute tangible support to the museum in the~~  
8 ~~form of funding or in kind services, that the Legislature remain open to those contingencies.~~

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send copies of this resolution to the  
10 Montana Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Montana, the Board of Directors of the  
11 private, nonprofit museum corporation, the Regional Forester of the Forest Service Northern Region, and  
12 the Directors of the Montana Historical Society and the Museum of the Rockies.

13 -END-