

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38

INTRODUCED BY D. ZOLNIKOV

BY REQUEST OF THE HOUSE ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY, AND FEDERAL RELATIONS STANDING COMMITTEE

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF BONDING AND RECLAMATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ENERGY GENERATION FACILITIES.

WHEREAS, bonding requirements for energy generation facilities are important for addressing risks to ground water, surface water, land contamination, and on-site reclamation; and

WHEREAS, it is important to facilitate responsible development of energy resources in Montana while sustaining the health, diversity, and productivity of the property where development occurs.

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

That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, to:

- (1) examine existing state laws related to bonding, decommissioning, and reclamation for energy generation facilities in Montana;
- (2) solicit and consider comments, concerns, and suggestions from all interested stakeholder groups;
- (3) identify and analyze relevant policy and logistical issues and options; and
- (4) if appropriate, develop a committee bill to expand, update, or revise related state laws based on the committee's study findings and recommendations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study be concluded prior to September 15, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions, comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 67th Legislature.

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