

## 1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 26

2 INTRODUCED BY D. ZOLNIKOV

3  
4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF  
5 MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF PUBLIC INFORMATION REQUESTS; AND REQUIRING  
6 THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 69TH LEGISLATURE.

7  
8 WHEREAS, Montana's public records laws were overhauled in 2015; and

9 WHEREAS, the volume of public information requests made to entities of the three branches of  
10 government and to local governments is increasing; and

11 WHEREAS, a review of the process through which state government and local governments are  
12 fulfilling public information requests is in order.

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

16 That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee or statutory  
17 committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to:

18 (1) review the processes through which the legislative, judicial, and executive branches of the  
19 state and local governments are fulfilling public information requests; and

20 (2) determine whether statutory changes are needed to ensure that public information requests are  
21 handled efficiently by state and local governments.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the study is assigned to staff, any findings or conclusions be  
23 presented to and reviewed by an appropriate committee designated by the Legislative Council.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review  
25 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2024.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,  
27 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 69th Legislature.

28 - END -