

1 _____ JOINT RESOLUTION NO. _____
2 INTRODUCED BY _____
3 (Primary Sponsor)

4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5 MONTANA RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE
6 LEGISLATURES ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY FOR PROVIDING EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP AND
7 COMMITMENT TO STATE LEGISLATORS, LEGISLATIVE STAFF, AND LEGISLATIVE INSTITUTIONS.

9 WHEREAS, our nation's state legislatures are America's laboratories of democracy that have
10 continually demonstrated that they are ideal organizations to resolve difficult policy choices and tackle emerging
11 challenges; and

12 WHEREAS, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) was created in 1975 from the
13 merger of three organizations that served or represented state legislatures and shared the belief that legislative
14 service is one of democracy's worthiest pursuits; and

WHEREAS, NCSL has evolved during the past half-century to become the premier organization solely dedicated to serving state and territorial legislatures and legislative staff; and

17 WHEREAS, NSCL is a bipartisan organization with three objectives: to advance the effectiveness,
18 independence, and integrity of state legislatures, to foster interstate communication and cooperation, and to
19 ensure states have a strong, cohesive voice in the federal system; and

20 WHEREAS, state legislatures are comprised of diverse legislators who find common ground and
21 resolve complex issues even though they represent constituents from different communities and backgrounds;
22 and

WHEREAS, NCSL helps facilitate an exchange of ideas, provides critical research and information, and encourages a rigorous review of complex problems confronting our communities, state, and nation; and

25 WHEREAS, NCSL creates opportunities for state legislatures to have a cohesive voice in the federal
26 system; and

27 WHEREAS, Montana Sen. Antoinette Rosell served as a founding member of the NCSL Executive
28 Committee, 1974-1975; and

WHEREAS, other Montana state legislators have enjoyed a mutually beneficial, professional association with NCSL while serving as members of the NCSL Executive Committee:

Rep. Robert Marks, 1978-1979

Sen. Bea McCarthy, 2002-2004

Sen. Elsie Arntzen, 2010-2013

Rep. Art Wittich, 2014-2016

Rep. Ellie Hill Smith, 2016-2018

Rep. Marilyn Ryan, 2018-2021

Sen. Barry Usher, 2021-present, currently serving as Vice Chair; and

WHEREAS, various Montana legislative staff members have each made important contributions to NCSL through their service as members of the NCSL Executive Committee:

Susan Byorth Fox, Executive Director, Legislative Services

Sonia Gavin, Legislative Librarian, Legislative Services

Rachel Weiss, Research Director, Legislative Services; and

WHEREAS, Susan Byorth Fox, Executive Director, Legislative Services, was a founding member of the NCSL Research, Editorial, Legal and Committee Staff section in 2016; and

WHEREAS, recent Montana legislative staff and lawmakers have served in leadership roles within NCSL, contributing to NCSL's voice in the federal system and the professional development of their colleagues across the country:

Sen. Elsie Arntzen, Co-Vice Chair, Natural Resources and Infrastructure Committee

Amy Carlson, President, National Association of Legislative Fiscal Offices

Marilyn Daumiller, Staff Co-Chair, Health and Human Services Committee

Rep. Llew Jones, Co-Chair, NCSL Education Committee; Chair NCSL Budget Working Group

Pad McCracken, Staff Co-Chair, Education Committee

Marilyn Daumiller, Staff Co-Chair, Human Services and Welfare Committee

Susan Byorth Fox, Staff Co-Chair, Legislative Effectiveness Committee, Staff Co-Chair, NCSL

Standing Committees

Senator Kristin Hansen, Co-Vice Chair, Education Committee

1 Rep. Frederick Moore, Co-Vice Chair, Health and Human Services Committee
2 Megan Moore, Staff Vice Co-Chair, NCSL Budgets and Revenue Committee
3 Patricia Murdo, Staff Co-Chair, Communications, Financial Services and Interstate Commerce
4 Committee
5 Bradley Murfitt, Executive Board, National Legislative Services and Security Association
6 Hope Stockwell, Staff Co-Chair, Natural Resources and Infrastructure Committee
7 Joe Triem, President-Elect, National Association of Legislative Fiscal Offices
8 Sen. Barry Usher, Co-Chair, NCSL Law and Public Safety Committee
9 Rachel Weiss, Staff Co-Chair, NCSL Elections and Redistricting Committee; Immediate Past Chair,
10 Research, Editorial, Legal and Committee Staff Association; Staff Co-Vice Chair, NCSL Overall Standing
11 Committee; and
12 WHEREAS, at least 10 Montana legislative staff have completed NCSL's prestigious and competitive
13 leadership development program for legislative staff, called the Legislative Staff Management Institute; and
14 WHEREAS, at least 12 Montana legislative staff and lawmakers have completed an NCSL Fellowship
15 program:
16 Rep. Laurie Bishop, Maternal and Child Health Fellow
17 Rep. Mary Caferro, Maternal and Child Health Fellow
18 Rep. Jennifer Carlson, Child Welfare Fellow
19 Rep. Jane Gillette, Maternal and Child Health Fellow, Early Childhood Fellow
20 Sen. Carl Glimm, Opioid Policy Fellow
21 Sen. Ryan Lynch, Pretrial Policy Fellow
22 Sen. Edie McClafferty, Early Childhood Fellow
23 Pad McCracken, Early Childhood Fellow
24 Rep. Sharon Stewart Peregoy, Early Childhood Fellow
25 Rep. Amy Regier, Opioid Policy Fellow
26 Sen. Laura Smith, Opioid Policy Fellow, Early Childhood Fellow
27 Sen. Barry Usher, Pretrial Policy Fellow; and
28 WHEREAS, NCSL provides opportunities for state legislators and staff to better understand and

1 appreciate the important role they play in preserving and protecting legislative institutions as effective,
2 independent, and ethical organizations.

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

5 That the State of Montana does hereby recognize and commend the National Conference of State
6 Legislatures for its exceptional leadership and commitment to state legislators, legislative staff, and legislative
7 institutions.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislative Services Division send a copy of this resolution to
9 NCSL.

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