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4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF

5 MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF SCHOOL DISTRICT REORGANIZATION; AND

6 REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 70TH LEGISLATURE.

28 That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee or statutory

committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, to study school district reorganization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee:

(1) collaborate in this study with:

(a) school district trustees and superintendents;

(b) school administrators and teachers;

(c) school district clerks and business officers;

(d) the Board of Public Education; and

(e) the Office of Public Instruction;

(2) review research on the educational and financial impacts of school district reorganization;

(3) investigate ways other states have identified and provided adequate resources to small and isolated schools and school districts;

(4) examine existing Montana laws and funding mechanisms that impact school district reorganization; and

(5) research alternatives to school district reorganization that lead to similar efficiencies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee undertake this study promptly in a manner and on a timeline that allows the committee to inform the School Funding Interim Commission of its findings at a point when the Commission can utilize those findings in its work.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review requirements, be concluded prior to May 15, 2026.

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 70th Legislature.

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