64th Legislature SJ0023.01

1	SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 23
2	INTRODUCED BY J. KEANE
3	
4	A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5	MONTANA REQUESTING A STUDY OF THE INFLUENCES ON MONTANA'S GASOLINE PRICES.
6	
7	WHEREAS, consumers and policymakers need more information on factors that influence gasoline prices
8	throughout Montana; and
9	WHEREAS, because there is limited information about gasoline prices in Montana, there are questions
10	about whether gasoline prices in Montana are being set in a competitive manner; and
11	WHEREAS, a study can provide perspective and insight about gasoline prices in Montana.
12	
13	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
14	STATE OF MONTANA:
15	That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee, pursuant to
16	section 5-5-217, MCA, to study the influences on Montana's gasoline prices.
17	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study:
18	(1) review historic and current gasoline prices in Montana;
19	(2) analyze changes in gasoline prices over the last 10 years and the different components that
20	contributed to changing prices;
21	(3) assess significant gasoline price differences that exist among Montana communities and in
22	neighboring states;
23	(4) review information about the state's sources of gasoline, Montana's refinery capacity, and consumer
24	demand;
25	(5) evaluate the differences in the wholesale cost of gasoline from various supply sources, transportation
26	costs, retailing costs, and diesel prices; and
27	(6) analyze the establishment of gasoline prices in Montana by gasoline fuel suppliers in response to
28	market conditions or other conditions.
29	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study involve stakeholders, including the Department of Labor
30	and Industry, Business Standards Division, gasoline fuel suppliers and retailers, and other interested parties.

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1	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study include, if necessary, suggested legislation to address
2	noncompetitive gasoline pricing if the study determines that noncompetitive gasoline pricing problems exist.
3	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review
4	requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2016.
5	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,
6	comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 65th Legislature.
7	- END -

Legislative Services Division