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| 1 | HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 59 | | |
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| 2 | INTRODUCED BY P. STRAND, P. ELVERUM, J. ISALY, J. LYNCH, E. MATTHEWS, L. MUSZKIEWICZ, G | | |
| 3 | OVERSTREET, M. ROMANO, E. TILLEMAN | | |
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| 5 | A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF | | |
| 6 | MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY ON ENHANCING MEDIA LITERACY THROUGH | | |
| 7 | EDUCATION; AND REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE | | |
| 8 | 70TH LEGISLATURE. | | |
| 9 | | | |
| 10 | WHEREAS, smartphone and screen media usage among children and adolescents has accelerated | | |
| 11 | greatly in the last decade; and | | |
| 12 | WHEREAS, nefarious actors are utilizing media in ways harmful to children and society; and | | |
| 13 | WHEREAS, it is unlikely that smartphone and screen media usage will decrease; and | | |
| 14 | WHEREAS, enhancing media literacy through education offers the best hope to help children learn to | | |
| 15 | navigate the rapidly changing media landscape and minimize harmful impacts. | | |
| 16 | | | |
| 17 | NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF | | |
| 18 | THE STATE OF MONTANA: | | |
| 19 | That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee or statutory | | |
| 20 | committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, to examine ways in which media literacy can be enhanced | | |
| 21 | through education. | | |
| 22 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee: | | |
| 23 | (1) collaborate in this examination with: | | |
| 24 | (a) state and national organizations with expertise in media literacy education; | | |
| 25 | (b) the Office of Public Instruction; | | |
| 26 | (c) the Board of Public Education; | | |
| 27 | (d) professional educator preparation programs; and | | |
| 28 | (e) teachers of media literacy; | | |



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| 1 | (2) | develop a basic understanding of what media literacy is and of the impacts on children and | |
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| 2 | society when media literacy is not developed; | | |
| 3 | (3) | familiarize itself with current content standards for media literacy within the accreditation | |
| 4 | standards of the Board of Public Education; | | |
| 5 | (4) | gather input from teachers of media literacy about best practices and challenges they face in | |
| 6 | developing media literacy in students; and | | |
| 7 | (5) | review successful efforts to improve media literacy in other states and recommendations from | |
| 8 | national organizations focused on improving media literacy through education. | | |
| 9 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review | | |
| 10 | requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2026. | | |
| 11 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions, | | |
| 12 | comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 70th Legislature. | | |
| 13 | | - END - | |

