

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 42

INTRODUCED BY B. EDWARDS, E. BYRNE, M. CAFERRO, D. HARVEY, K. LOVE, E. MATTHEWS, B.
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A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF STATE AGENCY PROCUREMENT PRACTICES; AND
REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 70TH LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, the Montana Procurement Act has several beneficial purposes, including ensuring fair and
equitable treatment of all people who deal with the procurement system in the state of Montana, providing
increased economy in state procurement activities, maximizing the purchasing value of public funds, and
providing for increased public confidence in the procedures followed by the state in procuring services; and

WHEREAS, all state agencies have a responsibility to adhere to the Montana Procurement Act to
ensure the responsible, consistent, and transparent use of public funds; and

WHEREAS, in recent years there have been multiple state agency procurements that have raised
questions about transparency and the appropriate use of public funds; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has a vested interest in ensuring that all laws, including the Montana
Procurement Act, are adhered to.

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

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

- (1) review state statutes and administrative rules related to state agency procurement;
- (2) identify the policies and procedures state agencies use when determining whether to follow
standard procurement procedures or how they otherwise determine whether to seek bids or proposals for
services;
- (3) identify any practical obstacles that may impact state agency procurement procedures;

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