

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17

INTRODUCED BY V. JACKSON

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4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5 MONTANA ENCOURAGING THE DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION BY CONSERVATION DISTRICTS ON
6 THE USE OF VOLUNTARY STREAMSIDE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES.

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8 WHEREAS, the legislature, mindful of its obligations under Article II, sections 3 and 29, and Article IX,
9 section 1, of the Montana Constitution, has enacted Title 76, chapter 15, MCA, regarding conservation districts;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, it is the intent of the conservation district laws to assist property owners in protecting
12 montana's streams from water pollution, to provide conservation districts with the necessary powers to protect
13 local rivers and streams, and to ensure that the property rights of property owners are protected while serving
14 this public need; and

15 WHEREAS, watersheds of Montana provide an irreplaceable supply of clean water for domestic use,
16 agriculture, recreation, and industry; and

17 WHEREAS, riparian lands are some of the most valuable, productive, and critical to private landowners
18 and government entities; and

19 WHEREAS, private landowners and government landowners are interested in managing their assets with
20 an eye toward keeping their land healthy; and

21 WHEREAS, the use of voluntary streamside best management practices may offer a range of benefits
22 in relation to water quality, sustained production, long-term employment opportunities, and resource conservation;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Montana citizens and landowners should be informed on the use of voluntary streamside
25 best management practices to achieve water quality and private property protection in Montana.

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

29 That the Legislature declares that in order to promote the health and welfare of our people, control
30 erosion and pollution in our streams and rivers, and protect private property, it is necessary to inform Montana's



1 citizens and property owners of voluntary streamside best management practices at the local level through
2 Montana's conservation districts.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislature encourages conservation districts across Montana
4 to be proactive and diligent in informing and disseminating information regarding voluntary streamside best
5 management practices.

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