

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. HJ0010

Magna Carta.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Halverson, Jaggi, Steinmetz
and Winters and Senator(s) Cooper,
Dockstader and Hicks

A Bill

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION to memorialize the 800th anniversary of
2 the Magna Carta and to highlight its enduring principles of
3 liberty embodied therein.

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5 WHEREAS, in the reign of King John of England, the Barons
6 of England objected to the King's policies, especially his
7 taxes and his infringement of their traditional rights; and

8

9 WHEREAS, on June 15, 1215, the Barons met with King John at
10 Runnymede near Windsor, England, and presented him with the
11 "Articles of the Barons", later known as Magna Carta, or
12 the Great Charter, the seed of American liberty, and forced
13 him to sign the Articles under threat of rebellion; and

14

1 WHEREAS, the Crown, by Magna Carta, acknowledged and
2 confirmed the rights of all Englishmen, not just those of
3 the Barons; and

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5 WHEREAS, Magna Carta in Article 61 contains the right of a
6 council of twenty-five (25) Barons, the nucleus of what is
7 now Parliament of the United Kingdom, to overrule the Crown
8 and to rebel against the Crown should the King defy that
9 right; and

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11 WHEREAS, Magna Carta is today acknowledged as a key
12 document in the evolution of England from feudal absolute
13 monarchy toward a parliamentary system; and

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15 WHEREAS, the framers of the American Declaration of
16 Independence and American Constitution and Bill of Rights
17 looked to England, Parliament and Magna Carta for precedent
18 and inspiration, in particular regarding the rights to due
19 process, a speedy and public trial, compensation for the
20 taking of property and the prohibition of self-
21 incrimination or taxation without representation; and

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1 WHEREAS, the spirit of Article 61 of Magna Carta is
2 preserved today in the Wyoming Constitution, Article 1,
3 Section 1.

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5 *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE*
6 *LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:*

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8 **Section 1.** That Wyoming celebrate June 15, 2015, the
9 800th anniversary of the day the Barons of England accosted
10 King John at Runnymede in the defense of their Liberties,
11 as Magna Carta Day.

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13 **Section 2.** That Wyoming encourage the teaching of the
14 lessons of Magna Carta within and outside the schools of
15 the state.

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17 **Section 3.** That Wyoming defend its Liberties with the
18 same fierce steadfast determination that the Barons of
19 England showed at Runnymede.

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1 **Section 4.** That the Secretary of State of Wyoming
2 transmit copies of this resolution to the Governor of
3 Wyoming, to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation, to every
4 school district superintendent, who shall provide every
5 school within the local district a copy of this resolution,
6 and to the chair of each local board of trustees.

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8

(END)