

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 44

INTRODUCED BY G. HERTZ

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING; AND REQUESTING THAT THE RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 70TH LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, the Montana Legislature has committed significant resources to support affordable housing strategies; and

WHEREAS, there are many separate local, state, and federal programs to incentivize housing.

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) evaluate whether local, state, or federal government programs add additional costs to construct or rehabilitate affordable housing units compared to nonsubsidized housing programs or projects;

(2) prepare a cost-benefit analysis of state programs that are directly intended to incentivize or otherwise encourage the development of affordable housing, including but not limited to the various programs implemented in House Bill No. 819 from the 2023 session, the Coal Trust Multifamily Homes loan program, and other programs administered by the Board of Housing;

(3) review housing choice voucher programs provided by local, state, and federal housing programs and analyze how those programs compare to other local, state, and federal housing programs that subsidize housing construction costs; and

(4) identify the programs that have proven most successful in Montana to reduce the cost of housing and examine the reasons for the success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee engage appropriate stakeholders, such as the Department of Commerce, the Board of Housing, the Board of Investments, the Governor's Office of Economic

1 Development, private developers, construction contractors, organizations that focus on housing, and nonprofit  
2 housing organizations that focus on the development or rehabilitation of affordable housing.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the study is assigned to staff, any findings or conclusions be  
4 presented to and reviewed by an appropriate committee designated by the Legislative Council.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review  
6 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2026.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,  
8 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 70th Legislature.

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