

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 37

2 INTRODUCED BY B. MOLNAR

3
4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5 MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF CITIZEN-OWNED ELECTRIC GENERATION
6 COOPERATIVES; AND REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE
7 69TH LEGISLATURE.

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9 WHEREAS, the future of Montana's electricity sector is changing rapidly; and

10 WHEREAS, Montanans require reliable sources of electricity generation; and

11 WHEREAS, other states provide for varying generation ownership models; and

12 WHEREAS, Montana ratepayers in all classes have shared concerns.

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

16 That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee or statutory
17 committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to examine the feasibility of
18 citizen-owned electric generation cooperatives, including:

19 (1) the legality of citizen-owned electric generation cooperatives;

20 (2) the composition of a citizen-owned electric generation cooperative board;

21 (3) what entities may participate in a citizen-owned electric generation cooperative;

22 (4) any financial impacts to ratepayers;

23 (5) the process and funding options for the purchase of necessary generation and transmission
24 capacity;

25 (6) available federal and cooperative power available for a new cooperative; and

26 (7) the process to purchase and manage the cooperative.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the study is assigned to staff, any findings or conclusions be

28 presented to and reviewed by an appropriate committee designated by the Legislative Council.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review
2 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2024.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,
4 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 69th Legislature.

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