69th Legislature LC3092.1

1	JOINT RESOLUTION NO
2	INTRODUCED BY
3	
4	A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5	MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF THE MONTANA STATE FUND SAFETY PROGRAM;
6	AND REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 70TH
7	LEGISLATURE.
8	
9	WHEREAS, understanding the effectiveness of safety services helps to identify the best practices for
10	preventing workplace injuries, which is the most cost-effective approach to managing workers' compensation;
11	and
12	WHEREAS, improving safety services can reduce the number and severity of claims, thus lowering
13	insurance premiums and overall system costs; and
14	WHEREAS, effective safety programs lead to healthier, safer work environments, which benefit both
15	employees and employers through fewer lost workdays and improved productivity; and
16	WHEREAS, studying safety service delivery helps policymakers design evidence-based regulations
17	and incentives that encourage employers to invest in workplace safety; and
18	WHEREAS, analyzing how safety services are delivered ensures that resources are used effectively
19	and that safety service providers are held accountable for their performance; and
20	WHEREAS, the Montana State Fund owns 60% of the private workers' compensation market and
21	therefore has the largest opportunity to influence safety practices; and
22	WHEREAS, the Legislature has an interest in ensuring limited safety services are leveraged in the best
23	interest of the state; and
24	WHEREAS, understanding whether safety resources are being used in the most dangerous industries
25	and by high-risk employers is beneficial for policymakers to determine funding, incentives, and priorities.
26	
27	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
28	THE STATE OF MONTANA:



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1 That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee or statutory 2 committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, to review the Montana State Fund safety program. 3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study investigate: 4 disbursement of Montana State Fund monies earmarked for safety programs, including but not (1) 5 limited to funds used for advertising, education, associations, training, marketing, and travel; and 6 (2) why Montana consistently has one of the nation's highest rates of workplace deaths. 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the interim committee work with stakeholders, including the 8 Montana State Fund, the Department of Labor and Industry, business owners, and representatives of the labor 9 force. 10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review 11 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2026. 12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions, 13 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 70th Legislature. - END -14

