

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 7

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11
12 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
13 MONTANA URGING UNIVERSITY SYSTEM SUPPORT FOR COLLEGIATE SHOOTING SPORTS IN THE
14 MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.

15
16 WHEREAS, Montana has a long and honorable tradition of appropriate and constitutionally recognized
17 firearms use; and

18 WHEREAS, firearms and shooting are a common ingredient of contemporary life in Montana; and

19 WHEREAS, shooting sports are acceptable competitive activities throughout the world and in the
20 Olympics; and

21 WHEREAS, shooting sports are not recognized in the Montana University System as intermural, club,
22 or intercollegiate sports; and

23 WHEREAS, Montana produces an unusual number of excellent competitive shooters who accept
24 shooting scholarships at out-of-state colleges and universities because no shooting sports programs or
25 scholarships are available in the Montana University System; and

26 WHEREAS, shooting sports in Montana currently enjoy a safety record that cannot be matched by
27 most other organized sports; and

28 WHEREAS, shooting sports include a variety of activities, such as trap, skeet, sporting clays,

1 smallbore, air rifle, air pistol, biathlon, pentathlon, practical pistol, precision rifle, and archery; and

2 WHEREAS, shooting sports are an area of competition in which the units of the Montana University
3 System can compete on equal footing with other institutions of higher education; and

4 WHEREAS, studies demonstrate that students involved in shooting competition also excel
5 academically; and

6 WHEREAS, shooting sports are an area of competition that promotes excellence and meaningful
7 participation, regardless of size, experience, sex, race, or even some physical disadvantages.

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

11 (1) That the Montana Legislature encourages the Board of Regents and the units of the Montana
12 University System to adopt and facilitate shooting sports competitions as collegiate sports.

13 (2) That the Montana Legislature encourages the units of the Montana University System to utilize
14 university resources and to also partner with nonuniversity personnel and entities to facilitate shooting sports
15 competitions as collegiate sports.

16 (3) That the Montana Legislature encourages the units of the Montana University System to
17 develop endowments and offer scholarships for enrolled students competing in shooting sports.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send a copy of this resolution to each
19 member of the Board of Regents and to the leaders of all public colleges and universities in Montana.

20 - END -