

Amendment - 2nd Reading-yellow - Requested by: Mary Ann Dunwell - (S) Committee of the Whole

69th Legislature - 2025

Drafter: Rebecca Brown,

HJ0034.002.002

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 34
2 INTRODUCED BY R. GREGG, S. FITZPATRICK, B. LER, B. MITCHELL
3

4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5 MONTANA SUPPORTING MONTANA'S BEEF PRODUCERS.
6

7 WHEREAS, the beef industry is a vital and longstanding cornerstone of the state of Montana's
8 agricultural economy, with over 2.5 million cattle raised across the state, contributing significantly to the state's
9 gross domestic product, rural communities, and job market; and

10 WHEREAS, Montana's beef producers, including ranchers, farmers, and workers, are dedicated to
11 raising cattle in an environmentally responsible manner, upholding high standards for animal welfare, land
12 stewardship, and sustainability; and

13 WHEREAS, Montana's cattle ranchers have long been stewards of the land, preserving open space,
14 promoting soil health, and maintaining ecosystems through responsible grazing practices; and

15 WHEREAS, Montana beef producers face numerous challenges, including fluctuating market prices,
16 rising feed and input costs, trade barriers, and increased competition from foreign beef imports that undermine
17 Montana ranchers' ability to thrive; and

18 WHEREAS, Montana's beef industry is an essential contributor to local economies, providing jobs in
19 agriculture, transportation, food processing, and retail sectors, and playing an integral role in the survival of
20 many small towns and rural communities throughout the state; and

21 WHEREAS, Montana's high-quality beef is a respected product in national and international markets,
22 and supporting Montana's beef producers is critical to maintaining the state's reputation for producing some of
23 the best beef in the world; and

24 WHEREAS, Montana's beef producers not only provide a source of nutritious food for consumers but
25 also contribute to national food security and support a balanced and healthy diet with lean, high-protein beef;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, the Montana Legislature recognizes the importance of ensuring that the state's beef
28 producers remain competitive, sustainable, and supported through favorable policies, market access, and fair-

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1 trade agreements; and

2 WHEREAS, the state of Montana opposes the ~~Green New Deal and similar far-left~~ proposals that
3 threaten the cattle industry by promoting harmful regulations, restrictions, and tax policies aimed at limiting or
4 eliminating livestock production, which could undermine the economic viability of Montana's beef industry,
5 disrupt rural communities, and harm Montana's agricultural heritage; ~~and~~

6 ~~WHEREAS, the state of Montana opposes the promotion, production, and sale of lab-grown "meat" as~~
7 ~~a substitute for real, responsibly raised beef, recognizing that lab-grown meat is an untested and harmful~~
8 ~~alternative that threatens the livelihoods of ranchers, distorts the marketplace, and poses significant questions~~
9 ~~about food safety, environmental impact, and long-term health consequences.~~

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

13 That the Montana Legislature strongly supports Montana's beef producers for their essential role in the
14 state's economy, culture, and way of life.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Legislature calls on the state and federal governments
16 to prioritize policies that ensure fair market conditions, provide support for Montana ranchers, reduce
17 unnecessary regulatory burdens, and facilitate better trade relationships that open new markets for Montana
18 beef.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Legislature encourages the development and
20 promotion of policies that support sustainable beef production, encourage the use of innovative agricultural
21 practices, and enhance the resilience of Montana's beef producers in the face of market challenges, climate
22 change, and global competition.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Legislature reaffirms its commitment to ensuring the
24 continued success and viability of Montana's beef industry, recognizing its significance in supporting rural
25 communities, preserving agricultural heritage, and maintaining Montana's position as a national leader in beef
26 production.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Legislature opposes any federal or state proposals,
28 including those associated with the far-left Green New Deal, that would impose excessive regulations,

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1 restrictions, or taxes on Montana's beef industry, which would jeopardize the livelihoods of ranchers and the
2 economic well-being of rural communities across the state.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Legislature ~~strongly opposes the promotion,~~
4 ~~production, and sale of lab-grown "meat" as a substitute for natural beef, and~~ supports policies that protect the
5 integrity of Montana's beef industry and the safety of consumers by ensuring that only responsibly raised, high-
6 quality beef enters the marketplace.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send a copy of this resolution to the
8 Governor of the State of Montana, to the United States Secretary of Agriculture, to each member of the
9 Montana Congressional Delegation, to the Montana Stockgrowers Association, to the Montana Farm Bureau
10 Federation, to the Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund United Stockgrowers of America (R-CALF USA), to
11 the United States Cattlemen's Association, to the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, and to the American
12 Angus Association to further demonstrate the Legislature's strong support for Montana's beef producers and
13 the Legislature's opposition to policies that threaten the industry.

14 - END -