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1	HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 44		
2	INTRODUCED BY Z. WIRTH, B. GILLESPIE, M. YAKAWICH, B. BEARD, S. FITZPATRICK, D. BEDEY, E.		
3	BYRNE, P. FIELDER, C. HINKLE, S. KELLY, G. KMETZ, T. MILLETT, B. MITCHELL, M. NIKOLAKAKOS, L.		
4	REKSTEN, K. WALSH		
5			
6	A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF		
7	MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF ENDOCRINE-DISRUPTING CHEMICALS AND WATE		
8	QUALITY; AND REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 70TH		
9	LEGISLATURE.		
10			
11	WHEREAS, human reproduction is declining around the world, affecting men, women, and children;		
12	and		
13	WHEREAS, the decline in reproduction is attributed to unhealthy lifestyles and chemicals in the		
14	environment; and		
15	WHEREAS, endocrine-disrupting chemicals, such as phthalates, bisphenol A, flame-retardants, and		
16	pesticides, interfere with the body's hormonal systems; and		
17	WHEREAS, these endocrine-disrupting chemicals are found in toys, plastic drinking bottles, cleaning		
18	supplies, house dust, home furniture, electronics, building materials, fragrances, food, food packaging, person		
19	care products, and drinking water; and		
20	WHEREAS, exposure to endocrine-disrupting chemicals may contribute to attention deficit hyperactivity		
21	disorder, asthma, obesity, and early puberty in children; thyroid disorders, breast cancer, diabetes, obesity, an		
22	infertility in women; and thyroid disorders, diabetes, obesity, infertility, prostate cancer, and low sperm count in		
23	men; and		
24	WHEREAS, declining birth rates and increasing life expectancy may create a "demographic time bomb		
25	as future generations struggle to meet the needs and obligations of an older population, thereby reducing		
26	economic growth, decreasing tax revenue, and increasing health care costs; and		
27	WHEREAS, declining sperm counts, diminished ovarian reserves, and increasing miscarriage rates		
28	could eventually threaten survival of the human race; and		



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1	WHEREAS, as a modest first step to combat what could become a global calamity, the Montana		
2	Legislature should examine the threats of these chemicals in our drinking water.		
3			
4	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF		
5	THE STATE OF MONTANA:		
6	That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee or statutory		
7	committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to:		
8	(1)	review how existing state water quality laws and federal acts, including the Clean Water Act	
9	and the Safe Drinking Water Act, protect water quality in Montana and regulate endocrine-disrupting chemicals		
10	(2)	analyze research related to the health effects of endocrine-disrupting chemicals;	
11	(3)	determine, if possible, the prevalence of endocrine-disrupting chemicals in Montana; and	
12	(4)	offer recommendations for future study, rulemaking, or changes to law related to water quality	
13	and endocrine-disrupting chemicals.		
14	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the study is assigned to staff, any findings or conclusions be		
15	presented to and reviewed by an appropriate committee designated by the Legislative Council.		
16	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review		
17	requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2026.		
18	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,		
19	comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 70th Legislature.		
20		- END -	

