

YMCA OF THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF MONTANA

_____ Bill Number _____

Introduced by: Andrew Helming
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Delegation: Butte Central

Legislative Action:

House Committee: _____

House: _____

Senate Committee: _____

Senate: _____

Governor: _____

Referred to Committee: _____

1. A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: “ COAL POWER IN MONTANA”
2. BE IT ENACTED BY THE MONTANA YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE
3. NEW SECTION_ **Section 1.** WHERE AS: Coal power must be the leading energy source over
4. wind power.
5. NEW SECTION **Section 2.** Coal power should be dominant over wind power in Montana for
6. the following reasons:
7. Coal power is very reliable, whereas wind power is only reliable 30% of the time. Only when
8. the wind is blowing is wind power available
9. Montana's main wind farm, Judith Gap, only produces power about 40% of the time
10. Wind power requires much more maintenance work than that of coal energy and that
11. maintenance is very expensive
12. New wind power generation has to be built in Montana if more power is to be produced, coal
13. power facilities already exist.
14. Wind farms can only be built in certain places
15. A Northwestern energy worker stated, “ Wind power may look good, but when it comes down
16. to it, it costs about three times as much as coal power.”
17. The weather conditions in Montana are not ideal for wind power, as wind power generators are
18. highly susceptible to cold temperatures.
19. The amount of power produced by wind is trivial compared to that generated by coal.
20. NEW SECTION **Section 3.** The money for this project will come from the general fund and a
21. 25% contribution from North Western Energy.
22. NEW SECTION **Section 4.** This bill will be enacted within one year of passing.

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