

HOUSE BILL NO. 497

INTRODUCED BY W. GALT

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING ADDITIONAL ELK TO BE HARVESTED DURING A  
5 SHOULDER SEASON ESTABLISHED BY THE FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION; AMENDING SECTION  
6 87-2-501. MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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10 **Section 1.** Section 87-2-501, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"87-2-501. Class A-3, A-4, A-5, A-6, A-7, A-9--resident deer, elk, and bear licenses -- special Class**  
12 **A-7 resident and nonresident license requirements and preference -- fees.** (1) Except as otherwise provided  
13 in this chapter, a resident, as defined by 87-2-102, or a nonresident who wishes to purchase a Class A-7 elk  
14 license only and who is 12 years of age or older or who will turn 12 years old before or during the season for  
15 which the license is issued, upon payment of the proper fee or fees, is entitled to purchase one each of the  
16 following licenses at the prescribed cost that will entitle a holder who is 12 years of age or older to hunt the game  
17 animal or animals authorized by the license held and to possess the carcasses of those game animals as  
18 authorized by department rules:

- 19 (a) Class A-3, deer A tag, \$16;
- 20 (b) Class A-4, deer B tag, \$10;
- 21 (c) Class A-5, elk tag, \$20;
- 22 (d) Class A-6, black bear tag, \$19;
- 23 (e) Class A-7, antlerless elk tag, \$20;
- 24 (f) Class A-9, resident antlerless elk B tag, \$20.

25 (2) (a) The holder of a Class A-7 antlerless elk license who is 12 years of age or older is entitled to hunt  
26 antlerless elk in areas designated by the commission and at the times and upon the terms set forth by the  
27 commission.

28 (b) ~~Subject~~ Except during a shoulder season established by the commission and subject to the  
29 management provisions provided in 87-1-321 through 87-1-325, a person may not take more than two elk during  
30 any license year, only one of which may be antlered. A person holding a Class A-7 antlerless elk tag may not take

1 an elk during the same license year with a Class A-5 license or nonresident elk tag. The use of Class A-7  
2 antlerless elk licenses does not preclude the department's use of special elk permits.

3 (c) Subject to the management provisions provided in 87-1-321 through 87-1-325, a nonresident shall  
4 hold a nonresident Class B-10 license as a prerequisite to application for a Class A-7 license.

5 (3) Subject to the limitation of subsection (5), a person who owns or is contracting to purchase 640 acres  
6 or more of contiguous land, at least some of which is used by elk, in a hunting district where Class A-7 licenses  
7 are awarded under this section must be issued, upon application, a Class A-7 license.

8 (4) An applicant who receives a Class A-7 license under subsection (3) may designate that the license  
9 be issued to an immediate family member or a person employed by the landowner. A corporation owning  
10 qualifying land under subsection (3) may designate one of its shareholders to receive the license.

11 (5) Subject to the management provisions provided in 87-1-321 through 87-1-325, 15% of the Class A-7  
12 licenses available each year under this section in a hunting district must be available to landowners under  
13 subsection (3)."

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15 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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