

SENATE BILL NO. 166

INTRODUCED BY B. GILLESPIE

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING THE LIVESTOCK LOSS BOARD TO HIRE ITS OWN PERSONNEL; AMENDING SECTION 2-15-3110, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

Section 1. Section 2-15-3110, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-3110. (Temporary) Livestock loss board -- purpose, membership, and qualifications. (1)

There is a livestock loss board. The purpose of the board is to administer the programs called for in the Montana gray wolf conservation and management plan, the Montana mountain lion management plan, and the Montana grizzly bear management plan and established in 2-15-3111 through 2-15-3113, with funds provided through the accounts established in 81-1-110, in order to minimize losses caused by wolves, mountain lions, and grizzly bears to livestock producers and to reimburse livestock producers for livestock losses from wolf, mountain lion, and grizzly bear predation.

(2) The board consists of five members, appointed by the governor, as follows:

(a) three members who are actively involved in the livestock industry and who have knowledge and experience with regard to wildlife impacts or management; and

(b) two members of the general public who are or have been actively involved in wildlife conservation or wildlife management and who have knowledge and experience with regard to livestock production or management.

(3) The board is designated as a quasi-judicial board for the purposes of 2-15-124. Notwithstanding the provisions of 2-15-124(1), the governor is not required to appoint an attorney to serve as a member of the board.

(4) The board is allocated to the department of livestock for administrative purposes only as provided in 2-15-121. However, the board may hire its own personnel, and 2-15-121(2)(d) does not apply.

(5) The board shall adopt rules to implement the provisions of 2-15-3110 through 2-15-3114 and 81-1-110 through 81-1-113.

(6) The board shall prioritize grants for prevention of wolf and grizzly bear predation over those for mountain lion predation. (Terminates June 30, 2023--sec. 6, Ch. 284, L. 2017.)



1 **2-15-3110. (Effective July 1, 2023) Livestock loss board -- purpose, membership, and**
2 **qualifications.** (1) There is a livestock loss board. The purpose of the board is to administer the programs called
3 for in the Montana gray wolf conservation and management plan, the Montana mountain lion management plan,
4 and the Montana grizzly bear management plan and established in 2-15-3111 through 2-15-3113, with funds
5 provided through the accounts established in 81-1-110, in order to minimize losses caused by wolves, mountain
6 lions, and grizzly bears to livestock producers and to reimburse livestock producers for livestock losses from wolf,
7 mountain lion, and grizzly bear predation.

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10 experience with regard to wildlife impacts or management; and

11 (b) two members of the general public who are or have been actively involved in wildlife conservation
12 or wildlife management and who have knowledge and experience with regard to livestock production or
13 management.

14 (3) The board is designated as a quasi-judicial board for the purposes of 2-15-124. Notwithstanding the
15 provisions of 2-15-124(1), the governor is not required to appoint an attorney to serve as a member of the board.

16 (4) The board is allocated to the department of livestock for administrative purposes only as provided
17 in 2-15-121. However, the board may hire its own personnel, and 2-15-121(2)(d) does not apply.

18 (5) The board shall adopt rules to implement the provisions of 2-15-3110 through 2-15-3114 and
19 81-1-110 through 81-1-112.

20 (6) The board shall prioritize grants for prevention of wolf and grizzly bear predation over those for
21 mountain lion predation."

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

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