

HOUSE BILL NO. 225

INTRODUCED BY MAEDJE, WAGMAN, ANDERSEN, ARNTZEN, BUTCHER, EVERETT, W. JONES,
LAMBERT, MALCOLM, SONJU, TAYLOR, ESP, WARD, STAHL, HEINERT

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CLARIFYING THE LAWFUL METHOD OF HUNTING BY A
LANDOWNER AND A LANDOWNER'S GUESTS AND LESSEES ON THE LANDOWNER'S PRIVATE
PROPERTY; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

WHEREAS, Montanans cherish the rights that have been reserved to them in the Montana Constitution;
and

WHEREAS, among those cherished rights are the right to acquire and possess property in all lawful
ways and the opportunity to harvest wild game animals.

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Lawful method of hunting on landowner's private property. (4) In
recognition of the inalienable right of persons to acquire and possess property in all lawful ways contained in
Article II, section 3, of the Montana constitution and of the heritage of individual citizens to harvest wild game
animals contained in Article IX, section 7, of the Montana constitution, a landowner and a landowner's guests
and lessees may hunt on the landowner's private property as long as the hunting is conducted in the manner
provided by law and is consistent with regulations regarding licensing and permits, seasons, species, and bag
limits. As long as the trajectory of the projectile from the landowner's, guest's, or lessee's hunting weapon stays
within that landowner's private property or adjacent public property that is open to lawful hunting, the hunting is
not considered a diminution of other private rights or a threat to public safety.

~~(2) Nothing in subsection (1) is intended to authorize shooting by a landowner across a public
right-of-way.~~

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
integral part of Title 87, chapter 2, part 1, and the provisions of Title 87, chapter 2, part 1, apply to [section 1].

