

SENATE BILL NO. 126

INTRODUCED BY S. GALLUS

BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REPEALING THE TERMINATION OF THE FUTURE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND THE BULL TROUT AND CUTTHROAT TROUT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM, WHICH WILL AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS TO CONTINUE TO FUND AND IMPLEMENT PROJECTS TO RESTORE AND ENHANCE FISHERIES HABITAT AND ENSURE THAT FUNDING FROM THE RESOURCE INDEMNITY TRUST FUND IS MAINTAINED; REPEALING SECTION 5, CHAPTER 463, LAWS OF 1995, AND SECTIONS 6 AND 9, CHAPTER 529, LAWS OF 1999; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

WHEREAS, the future fisheries improvement program and the bull trout and cutthroat trout enhancement program have proved to be effective voluntary programs to enhance Montana fisheries, including the historical habitats of native fish; and

WHEREAS, private landowners and anglers have found both programs to be effective tools for increasing fish populations; and

WHEREAS, it is important to the future of Montana's native fish, fisheries, and anglers to make the future fisheries improvement program and the bull trout and cutthroat trout enhancement program permanent.

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

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Repealer.** Section 5, Chapter 463, Laws of 1995, and Sections 6 and 9, Chapter 529, Laws of 1999, are repealed.

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

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