



AN ACT PROMOTING MONTANA'S FAMILY HUNTING HERITAGE BY CREATING NONRESIDENT COMBINATION HUNTING LICENSES THAT MAY BE USED BY ADULT NONRESIDENT FAMILY MEMBERS WHO WISH TO RETURN TO MONTANA TO HUNT WITH A SPONSOR OR FAMILY MEMBER; ESTABLISHING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF LICENSURE AND SPONSORSHIP; DEDICATING MONEY FROM THE SALE OF THE LICENSES TO THE ACQUISITION OF PUBLIC HUNTING ACCESS TO INACCESSIBLE PUBLIC LAND; AND PROVIDING A DELAYED EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE.

WHEREAS, Montana's hunting heritage is promoted when families can continue to hunt together; and  
WHEREAS, members of many Montana families have been required to move out of state to pursue expanded employment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, it can be difficult for these adult nonresident family members to draw a nonresident license in order to come back to Montana to hunt with their families; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for new revenue to address public land access concerns because access to public land for hunting is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain as traditional routes across private land are closed to public hunters; and

WHEREAS, creating a temporary new pool of nonresident licenses dedicated to former residents who desire to return to Montana to hunt with their families and directing the revenue from those licenses to fund public access to inaccessible public land would assist in strengthening both aspects of Montana's hunting heritage; and

WHEREAS, statistics compiled by the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks will provide a measurement of the success of the pilot program to provide more opportunities for former residents to come back home to hunt and to determine whether the license and the associated public land access efforts have resulted in a net increase or decrease in hunting opportunities for resident hunters.

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

**Section 1. License for nonresident to hunt with resident sponsor or family member -- use of**

**license revenue.** (1) In addition to the nonresident licenses provided for in 87-2-505 and 87-2-510, the department may offer for sale 500 B-10 nonresident big game combination licenses and 500 B-11 nonresident deer combination licenses. The licenses may be used only as provided in this section and as authorized by department rules. Sale of licenses pursuant to this section may not affect the license quotas established in 87-2-505 and 87-2-510. The price of licenses sold under this subsection must be the same as nonresident big game combination licenses and nonresident deer combination licenses offered by general drawing pursuant to 87-2-505 and 87-2-510.

(2) A license authorized in subsection (1) may be used only by an adult nonresident family member of a resident who sponsors the license application and who meets the qualifications of subsection (3). The nonresident family member must have completed a Montana hunter safety and education course prior to March 1, 2010, or have previously purchased a resident hunting license. A nonresident family member who receives a license pursuant to subsection (1) must be accompanied in the field by a sponsor or family member who meets the qualifications of subsection (3).

(3) To qualify as a sponsor or family member who will accompany a nonresident licensed under subsection (1), a person must be a resident, as defined in 87-2-102, who is 18 years old or older and possesses a current resident hunting license and who is related to the nonresident within the second degree of kinship by blood or marriage. The second degree of kinship includes a mother, father, brother, sister, son, daughter, spouse, grandparent, grandchild, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, father-in-law, mother-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, stepsister, stepson, and stepdaughter. The sponsor shall list on the license application the names of family members who are eligible to hunt with the nonresident hunter.

(4) If the department receives more applications for licenses than the number that are available under subsection (1), the department shall conduct a drawing for the licenses. Applicants who are unsuccessful in the drawing must be entered in the general drawing for a nonresident license provided under 87-2-505 or 87-2-510, as applicable.

(5) All money received from the sale of licenses under subsection (1) must be deposited in a separate account and must be used by the department to acquire public hunting access to inaccessible public land, which may include obtaining hunting access through private land to inaccessible public land.

**Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title

87, chapter 2, part 5, and the provisions of Title 87, chapter 2, part 5, apply to [section 1].

**Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective March 1, 2010.

**Section 4. Termination.** [This act] terminates March 1, 2014.

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,  
HB 0585, originated in the House.

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Chief Clerk of the House

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Speaker of the House

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

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President of the Senate

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

HOUSE BILL NO. 585

INTRODUCED BY MCCLAFFERTY, ARNTZEN, AUGARE, BELCOURT, DICKENSON, EBINGER,  
HAMILTON, HINER, HOLLENBAUGH, HOWARD, MACDONALD, MALEK, MEHLHOFF, P. NOONAN,  
PEASE-LOPEZ, ROUNDSTONE, SESSO, VILLA, WILMER, WILSON, P. BECK, KEANE, A. NOONAN

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