

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 176

2 INTRODUCED BY D. KARY

3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING THAT A PERSON WITH A LIFE-THREATENING
5 ILLNESS MAY RECEIVE A FREE, ONE-TIME ANTELOPE LICENSE; ESTABLISHING TERMS AND
6 CONDITIONS; AMENDING SECTION 87-2-706, 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 87-2-706, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"87-2-706. Drawing for special antelope licenses -- free licenses for those with life-threatening**

12 **illness.** (1) In the event that the number of valid applications for special antelope licenses for a hunting district
13 exceeds the quota set by the department for the district, the licenses must be awarded by a drawing. The
14 department shall provide for those persons making valid application for special antelope licenses a method of
15 selecting first, second, and third choice hunting districts for any drawing held pursuant to this section.

16 (2) The department shall reserve for applicants who are nonambulatory and have a permanent physical
17 disability, as determined by the department, up to 25 of the total special antelope licenses authorized for sale in
18 the state, excepting those licenses issued pursuant to 87-2-803(5), for use in the district designated by the
19 commission. If the number of valid disabled applicants exceeds the number of licenses available, the department
20 may hold a drawing in which all applicants have an equal chance of being selected.

21 (3) (a) The department may issue a free special antelope license to a resident or nonresident who has
22 been diagnosed with a life-threatening illness unless the person qualifies for a license pursuant to 87-2-805. As
23 used in this subsection, "life-threatening illness" means any progressive, degenerative, or malignant disease or
24 condition that results in a significant threat, likelihood, or certainty that the person's life expectancy will not extend
25 more than 1 year from the date of the request for the free license unless the course of the disease is interrupted
26 or abated.

27 (b) To qualify for the free license, the department must receive documentation that person has been
28 diagnosed with a life-threatening illness from a licensed physician.

29 (c) The free license may be issued on a one-time basis for one hunting season.

30 (d) In exercising hunting privileges, the person must conduct all hunting within the terms and conditions

1 of the license issued.

2 (e) The department may issue up to 25 licenses pursuant to this subsection (3) annually. These licenses
3 do not count against any quota set by the department. Licenses issued pursuant to this subsection (3) do not
4 count against the number of special antelope licenses reserved for people with permanent disabilities as provided
5 in subsection (2).

6 ~~(3)~~(4) The department may promulgate rules that are necessary to implement this section."
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8 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and approval.
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