

HOUSE BILL NO. 292

INTRODUCED BY D. KENNEDY

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF MONTANA AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE II, SECTION 3, OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION RECOGNIZING THAT A PERSON'S INALIENABLE RIGHT TO A CLEAN AND HEALTHFUL ENVIRONMENT INCLUDES THE RIGHT TO A ECONOMICALLY PRODUCTIVE ENVIRONMENT; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

**Section 1.** Article II, section 3, of The Constitution of the State of Montana is amended to read:

**"Section 3. Inalienable rights.** All persons are born free and have certain inalienable rights. They include the right to a clean, and healthful, and economically productive environment and the rights of pursuing life's basic necessities, enjoying and defending their lives and liberties, acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and seeking their safety, health and happiness in all lawful ways. In enjoying these rights, all persons recognize corresponding responsibilities."

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Two-thirds vote required.** Because [section 1] is a legislative proposal to amend the constitution, Article XIV, section 8, of the Montana constitution requires an affirmative roll call vote of two-thirds of all the members of the legislature, whether one or more bodies, for passage.

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective upon approval of the electorate.

NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Submission to electorate.** [This act] shall be submitted to the qualified electors of Montana at the general election to be held in November 2012 by printing on the ballot the full title of [this act] and the following:

- FOR recognizing that a person's inalienable right to a clean and healthful environment includes the right to an economically productive environment.
- AGAINST recognizing that a person's inalienable right to a clean and healthful environment

1 includes the right to an economically productive environment.

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