

1 SENATE BILL NO. 237

2 INTRODUCED BY R. ARTHUN, WAGNER, ZINKE, CLARK, MURPHY, KERNS, DE. BARRETT, HUTTON,
3 SALOMON, HARRIS, BROWN, STEINBEISSER, BRENDEN, JONES, R. RIPLEY

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5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING AUTHORITY FOR TESTING AND PREVALENCE
6 REDUCTION OF BRUCELLOSIS IN LIVESTOCK AND WILDLIFE; ESTABLISHING RESPONSIBILITY FOR
7 TESTING COSTS; REQUIRING REPORTING; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; AND PROVIDING AN
8 IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND A RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY DATE."

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10 WHEREAS, brucellosis transmission from wildlife to domestic livestock has been documented in
11 Montana; and

12 WHEREAS, the department of livestock has implemented temporary surveillance and testing areas for
13 cattle exposed to wildlife with brucellosis; and

14 WHEREAS, during the 2-year period since wildlife transmitted brucellosis to cattle within the designated
15 testing areas, there have not been any cattle in the temporary surveillance and testing areas found to be carrying
16 brucellosis; and

17 WHEREAS, data from the department of fish, wildlife, and parks shows an increase in the prevalence
18 of brucellosis in wildlife within areas proposed by the department of livestock for continual, long-term testing of
19 domestic livestock; and

20 WHEREAS, continual, long-term testing of domestic livestock in areas where there is a prevalence of
21 brucellosis in wildlife is a burden on livestock producers situated within the areas.

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

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25 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Brucellosis testing for livestock and wildlife -- testing costs --**
26 **rulemaking.** (1) Pursuant to 81-1-302, the administrator provided for in 81-1-301 may, upon notification that
27 livestock in the state are infected with brucellosis, promulgate orders or regulations for an area in order to enforce
28 brucellosis surveillance and eradication procedures for livestock.

29 (2) If the source of brucellosis transmission resulting in an order or regulation promulgated under
30 subsection (1) is:

1 (a) wild buffalo or bison, the administrator shall enforce the provisions of 81-2-120 in a manner that
 2 ensures that the risk of additional transmission from wild buffalo or bison to livestock is eliminated or minimized
 3 as much as possible; or

4 (b) from any other species of wildlife, the administrator shall, in coordination with the department of fish,
 5 wildlife, and parks, develop brucellosis surveillance and prevalence reduction procedures for the wildlife species
 6 identified as the source of transmission within the area affected.

7 (3) The department shall pay testing costs for the surveillance of livestock pursuant to subsection (1).
 8 Per capita funds as prescribed by 15-24-922 may not be used to pay these costs.

9 (4) The department of fish, wildlife, and parks shall pay testing costs for brucellosis surveillance and
 10 prevalence reduction in wildlife pursuant to subsection (2)(b).

11 (5) In promulgating any order or regulation under subsection (1), the administrator shall comply with the
 12 provisions of the Montana Administrative Procedure Act if the order or regulation requires testing of livestock for
 13 more than 1 year.

14 (6) An order or regulation promulgated under subsection (1) must:

15 (a) expire within 1 year after the last case of brucellosis in livestock is eradicated in the designated area
 16 unless:

17 (i) ~~after using statistically sound data to evaluate the risk of brucellosis transmission to livestock~~
 18 EXAMINATION OF BRUCELLOSIS SURVEILLANCE AND PREVALENCE REDUCTION INFORMATION ACQUIRED PURSUANT TO
 19 SUBSECTION (2)(A) OR (2)(B), the administrator determines that the order or regulation should continue in order to
 20 protect the health of livestock in the designated area, in which case the order or regulation may be extended for
 21 up to 1 year. Subject to the requirements of this subsection (6)(a), the administrator may grant more than one
 22 extension.

23 (ii) the administrator extends an order or regulation, in which case the administrator shall review the order
 24 or regulation with livestock producers in the designated area every 6 months;

25 (b) prior to adoption, include public hearings within the area designated in the order or regulation,
 26 including the opportunity to comment by livestock producers affected by the order or regulation.

27 (7) DURING A REVIEW REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (6)(A)(II), THE ADMINISTRATOR SHALL COMMUNICATE WITH
 28 LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS ABOUT:

29 (A) ANY NEED FOR CONTINUED TESTING AND SURVEILLANCE OF LIVESTOCK;

30 (B) ANY CHANGES TO HERD MANAGEMENT PLANS; AND

