



Chairman Welborn and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jerry Davis. I represent the Montana Bowhunters Association.

MBA opposes HB 418 because it proposes take opportunities away from resident sportsmen and women and give those opportunities to nonresident sportsmen and women.

In 1963 Montana set the limit for nonresident (NR) special licenses not to exceed 10% of available special licenses. Arguably there are more resident hunters now than in 1963. Therefore odds for a resident to draw a special license are now less than they were in 1963. Yet this bill proposes to take away opportunities for residents and give them to nonresidents.

If this bill becomes law it will surely have an effect on the "Breaks" Elk Archery Permits. According to FWP data last year 3611 residents who were successful in drawing an elk archery license in the "Breaks.

Conversely in the "Breaks" NR were successful in drawing 394 elk archery licenses. This roughly equates to 25% of all NR who had applied for those licenses received those licenses. That is pretty good odds for a much coveted license.

If this bill becomes law resident "Breaks" elk archery licenses will drop from 3611 licenses last year to 3305 in 2014. At the same time NR "Breaks" elk archery licenses will increase from 394 last year to 600 in 2014.

Additionally this bill also has a provision that removes all NR caps for a special license if all residents who applied for this license as a first choice were drawn. This means that residents who applied for the license as a 2nd or 3rd choice will be put in a common pool to include all residents and NR who had applied for the same license.

The net effect is that all residents who do not draw their first choice will be competing with a much larger pool for their 2nd and 3rd choice options, thereby lowering their odds considerably.

It is Montana sportsmen and women who live, work, and pay taxes in this state that will be paying the cost of this bill with reduced hunting opportunities. For many of us hunting opportunities are the reason we live and work in Montana.

This bill runs counter to what we in MBA believe our legislature is elected for, to be proponents for the residents of Montana and not for every other state in the Union.

We urge you to consider the cumulative effects on resident hunters and vote "do not pass."

Thank you,

Jerry Davis

2012 Elk Archery Permit Numbers, Breaks

	Resident			Nonresident		
	Applications	Successful	Breaks	Applications	Successful	Breaks
410-15	1,900	1,750	711	154	1,715	0
620-15	1,400	1,080	273	132	1,075	186
798-15	705	303	429	80	303	332
Totals	4,005	3,133	1,413	366	3,093	518

* Resident first choice success not 100% only due to residents applying as a party with nonresidents.

	Resident	Nonresident
% 1st	98.00%	37.00%
% 2nd	0.00%	0.00%
% 1st	99.54%	28.90%
% 2nd	68.13%	0.00%
% 1st	100.00%	31.96%
% 2nd	77.39%	0.00%
% 1st	98.72%	32.83%
% 2nd	36.66%	0.00%

2012 Elk Archery Permit Numbers, Outside the Breaks (900-15)

	Resident			Nonresident		
	Applications	Successful	Breaks	Applications	Successful	Breaks
401-15	350	113	157	113	157	49
411-15	900	566	432	566	245	180
420-15	680	282	664	282	334	101
500-15	180	51	104	51	104	16
502-15	150	63	89	63	77	4
580-15	130	62	116	62	55	26
590-15	450	191	231	191	214	111
799-15	860	287	497	287	487	166
Totals (900-15)	3,700	1,615	2,290	0	1,673	653

	Resident	Nonresident
% 1st	100.00%	97.96%
% 2nd	100.00%	76.19%
% 1st	100.00%	49.44%
% 2nd	56.71%	0.00%
% 1st	100.00%	63.37%
% 2nd	50.30%	0.00%
% 1st	100.00%	100.00%
% 2nd	100.00%	70.00%
% 1st	100.00%	100.00%
% 2nd	86.52%	100.00%
% 1st	100.00%	50.00%
% 2nd	47.41%	0.00%
% 1st	100.00%	40.54%
% 2nd	92.64%	0.00%
% 1st	100.00%	51.81%
% 2nd	97.99%	0.00%
% 1st	100.00%	55.90%
% 2nd	73.06%	18.07%

2012 Elk Archery Permit Numbers, What if 15% Nonresident

	Resident			Nonresident		
	Applications	Successful	Breaks	Applications	Successful	Breaks
410-15	1,900	1,750	711	154	1,615	0
620-15	1,400	1,080	273	132	1,080	10
798-15	705	303	429	80	303	297
900-15	3,700	1,615	2,290	0	1,615	1,697
Totals	7,705	4,748	3,703	366	4,613	2,004

	Resident	Nonresident
% 1st	92.29%	57.00%
% 2nd	0.00%	0.00%
% 1st	100.00%	43.66%
% 2nd	3.66%	0.00%
% 1st	100.00%	47.95%
% 2nd	69.23%	0.00%
% 1st	100.00%	59.42%
% 2nd	74.10%	0.00%
% 1st	97.16%	53.32%
% 2nd	54.12%	0.00%