EXHIBIT # 9
DATE 01/20/2015
HB 145

Montana Association of Counties
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RESOLUTION 2014-15

STATE ASSISTANCE FOR MONTANA LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS TO MANAGE LIVESTOCK IN CARNIVORE COUNTRY

It is the intent of the Montana Association of Counties' Agriculture and Public Lands Committees to support efforts to seek state legislation to assist Montana livestock producers in an environment that may include large carnivores.

WHEREAS, Montana's livestock producers are outstanding land mangers whose excellent stewardship greatly benefits hunters and outdoor sportsmen and sportswomen, sharing the outdoor legacy with future generations of Americans; and

WHEREAS, uncompensated economic pressure on Montana's livestock producers by large carnivores jeopardizes the future and existence of private land stewardship threatening the continued viability of ranching, hunting and outdoor sports; and

WHEREAS, the state authorization should allow participating livestock producers maximum latitude and flexibility to implement new rotational range management practices in managing livestock on all lands within Montana.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Montana Association of Counties' Agriculture and Public Lands Committees support an effort by Montana's Livestock industry and the Montana Livestock Loss Board to seek funding and appropriations via the Montana Legislature and federal government for programs to assist Montana's livestock producers and USDA Wildlife Services with the needed methods to control livestock losses and to prevent livestock losses by large carnivores.

SPONSOR:	**Madison County**
RECOMMENDATION:	**MACo Agriculture Committee: Do Pass** **MACo Public Lands Committee: Do Pass as Amended**
REFERRED TO:	**MACo Agriculture Committee & MACo Public Lands Committee**
ADOPTED:	**Annual Conference, Kalispell, MT September 24, 2014**