

1 _____ BILL NO. _____

2 INTRODUCED BY _____
3 (Primary Sponsor)

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BRUCELLOSIS QUARANTINE COMPENSATION
5 PROGRAM; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; PROVIDING A ONE-TIME GENERAL FUND
6 APPROPRIATION TO REIMBURSE LOSSES RELATED TO QUARANTINES ORDERED FOR EXPOSURE TO
7 BRUCELLOSIS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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9 WHEREAS, the cattle industry and a healthy, vibrant wildlife population are vital components of the
10 Montana economy; and

11 WHEREAS, a cattle herd that tests positive for brucellosis must be quarantined, inflicting significant
12 financial impacts on the cattle producer; and

13 WHEREAS, hunters support cattle producers, but funds should not be redirected from wildlife needs to
14 compensate cattle producers whose herds are quarantined for brucellosis; and

15 WHEREAS, since all Montanans benefit from a healthy cattle industry and a healthy wildlife population
16 it is appropriate that all Montanans share in the costs to compensate cattle producers whose herds are
17 quarantined for brucellosis.

18
19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
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21 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Brucellosis quarantine compensation program.** (1) The board shall
22 establish and administer a program to reimburse cattle producers for losses related to a quarantine ordered by
23 the department for exposure to brucellosis.

24 (2) (a) Any Montana cattle producer is eligible for reimbursement for losses related to a quarantine
25 ordered by the department for exposure to brucellosis if the producer meets other eligibility requirements
26 established by the board by rule.

27 (b) A cattle producer with cattle within a 1-mile radius of a cattle herd quarantined by the department for
28 exposure to brucellosis is eligible for testing or vaccination costs in accordance with this section and rules
29 established by the board.

30 (c) A cattle producer is not eligible for reimbursement pursuant to this section if the producer or any



1 owner, agent, or person in charge of the cattle violated the law or rules of the department.

2 (3) The board shall determine losses eligible for reimbursement at rates determined by the board by rule.
3 Reimbursement may not be paid for expenses paid for pursuant to 81-2-109 or Title 81, chapter 2, part 2.

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5 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Brucellosis quarantine compensation account.** (1) There is a brucellosis
6 quarantine compensation account administered by the department within the state special revenue fund.

7 (2) State proceeds deposited in this account and interest earned must be used for the purpose provided
8 in [section 1].

9 (3) Money remaining in the account after July 1, 2019, must be transferred to the general fund.

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11 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Appropriation.** There is appropriated \$3 million from the general fund to
12 the department of livestock to be used for the purpose established in [section 1].

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14 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Notification to tribal governments.** The secretary of state shall send a
15 copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the seven Montana reservations and to the Little Shell
16 Chippewa tribe.

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18 **NEW SECTION. Section 5. Codification instruction.** [Sections 1 and 2] are intended to be codified
19 as an integral part of Title 81, chapter 2, part 1, and the provisions of Title 81, chapter 2, part 1, apply to [sections
20 1 and 2].

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22 **NEW SECTION. Section 6. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2015.

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