



AN ACT REVISING LAWS RELATED TO THE LIVESTOCK CRIMESTOPPERS ACT; REPEALING THE LIVESTOCK CRIMESTOPPERS COMMISSION; REMANDING THE LIVESTOCK CRIMESTOPPERS COMMISSION DUTIES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK; AMENDING SECTIONS 81-6-302 AND 81-6-313, MCA; AND REPEALING SECTIONS 2-15-3104, 81-6-311, AND 81-6-312, MCA.

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

Section 1. Section 81-6-302, MCA, is amended to read:

"81-6-302. Definitions. As used in this part, the following definitions apply:

- ~~(1)~~ "Commission" means the livestock crimestoppers commission created in 2-15-3104.
- ~~(2)~~(1) "Department" means the department of livestock created in Title 2, chapter 15, part 31.
- ~~(3)~~(2) "Livestock" includes ostriches, rheas, and emus in addition to other livestock.
- ~~(4)~~(3) "Program" means the livestock crimestoppers program created under 81-6-313."

Section 2. Section 81-6-313, MCA, is amended to read:

"81-6-313. Powers and duties of department -- rules. (1) The department ~~shall~~ may:

- (a) create, maintain, and promote a statewide livestock crimestoppers program in order to assist law enforcement agencies in detecting and combating livestock-related crimes; ~~and~~
- ~~(b) consider the commission's recommendations and take action on them.~~
- ~~(2) The department may:~~
 - ~~(a)~~(b) advise and assist in the creation and maintenance of local programs;
 - ~~(b)~~(c) encourage the channeling of information from the programs to law enforcement agencies;
 - ~~(c)~~(d) foster the detection of livestock-related crimes by the public;
 - ~~(d)~~(e) encourage the public, through a reward program or otherwise, to provide information that

assists in the prosecution of livestock-related crimes;

~~(e)~~(f) promote the state and local programs through the media;

~~(f)~~(g) accept gifts, grants, or donations for the furtherance of the program and spend these in compliance with the conditions of the gifts, grants, or donations; and

~~(g)~~(h) adopt rules necessary to administer the provisions of this part.

(2) The department shall recommend to the board of livestock:

(a) the names of individuals to be rewarded for providing information used in detecting and combating livestock-related crimes;

(b) the amount of any reward recommended; and

(c) means for promoting the program."

Section 3. Repealer. The following sections of the Montana Code Annotated are repealed:

2-15-3104. Livestock crimestoppers commission.

81-6-311. Functions of commission.

81-6-312. Compensation.

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,
HB 159, originated in the House.

Chief Clerk of the House

Speaker of the House

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2023.

President of the Senate

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2023.

HOUSE BILL NO. 159

INTRODUCED BY J. KASSMIER

BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK

AN ACT REVISING LAWS RELATED TO THE LIVESTOCK CRIMESTOPPERS ACT; REPEALING THE LIVESTOCK CRIMESTOPPERS COMMISSION; REMANDING THE LIVESTOCK CRIMESTOPPERS COMMISSION DUTIES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK; AMENDING SECTIONS 81-6-302 AND 81-6-313, MCA; AND REPEALING SECTIONS 2-15-3104, 81-6-311, AND 81-6-312, MCA.