

SENATE BILL NO. 205
INTRODUCED BY L. JENT

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO EXEMPT AUTHORIZED GAME WARDEN POSITIONS FROM THE IMPOSITION OF VACANCY SAVINGS WHEN ESTABLISHING THE BUDGET FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Game warden positions exempt from vacancy savings -- report to audit committee.** (1) Vacancy savings may not be imposed on authorized game warden positions in the department.

(2) For purposes of this section:

(a) "authorized game warden positions" means those game warden positions included in the list of current authorized positions that the department of fish, wildlife, and parks is required to maintain under 2-18-206;

(b) "department" means the department of fish, wildlife, and parks established in 2-15-3401; and

(c) "vacancy savings" means the difference between the cost of fully funding authorized positions for an entire fiscal year and the actual cost of funding those authorized positions during that fiscal year.

(3) Each fiscal year, the department shall provide to the legislative audit committee provided for in 5-13-201 a detailed report on all authorized game warden positions in the department. At a minimum, the report must include the following information:

(a) the number of authorized game warden positions that were filled during the year and the average salary paid at hire;

(b) the total number of vacancies incurred during the year broken out by position title, the cause of each vacancy, and the length of time the authorized game warden position remained vacant;

(c) the total number of hours worked in authorized game warden positions during the year broken out by enforcement activity and position title.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 17, chapter 7, part 1, and the provisions of Title 17, chapter 7, part 1, apply to [section 1].

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective ~~July 1, 2007~~ ON PASSAGE AND APPROVAL JULY 1, 2007.

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