

SENATE BILL NO. 79

INTRODUCED BY T. FACEY

BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "~~AN ACT CLARIFYING THE MEANING OF THE TERM "FEES COMMENSURATE WITH COSTS" FUNDING REQUIREMENTS~~ WITH RESPECT TO PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING BOARDS; ~~ALLOWING FOR CONTINGENCIES WITHIN BOARD AND DEPARTMENT COSTS~~; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; AMENDING SECTIONS 37-1-134, 37-72-202, 37-73-221, 50-74-320, 50-76-104, AND 81-1-102, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

~~Section 1.~~ Section 37-1-134, MCA, is amended to read:

~~"37-1-134. Fees commensurate with costs -- definition. (1) Each board allocated to the department shall set board fees related to the respective program area that are commensurate with costs for licensing, including fees for initial licensing, reciprocity, renewals, applications, inspections, and audits. A board may set an examination fee that must be commensurate with costs. A board that issues endorsements and licenses specialties shall set respective fees commensurate with costs. Unless otherwise provided by law, the department may establish standardized administrative fees, including commensurate with costs. These fees may include but are not limited to fees for administrative services such as license verification, duplicate licenses, late penalty renewals, licensee lists, and other administrative service fees determined by the department as applicable to all boards and department programs. The department shall collect administrative fees on behalf of each board or department program and deposit the fees in the state special revenue fund in the appropriate account for each board or department program. Administrative service costs not related to a specific board or program area may be equitably distributed to board or program areas as determined by the department. Each board and department program shall maintain records sufficient to support the fees charged for each program area.~~

~~(2) The department and the boards shall adopt rules regarding all fees. The rules also must identify conditions that are to be used for contingencies, as provided in this section.~~

~~(3) As used in this section, the term "fees commensurate with costs" means fees that reasonably approximate and reflect all costs necessary to defray the expenses of the respective board or program area or~~

1 ~~of the department on behalf of the respective board or program area. The fees must provide for a reasonable~~
 2 ~~contingency and may take into consideration any adjustments necessary or appropriate to account for deviations~~
 3 ~~from anticipated revenues and expenses of the board or program area in previous years."~~

4
 5 ~~Section 2.~~ Section 37-72-202, MCA, is amended to read:

6 ~~"37-72-202. General rulemaking power -- definition. (1) The department shall adopt rules to:~~
 7 ~~(1)(a) implement the training and experience requirements of 37-72-302;~~
 8 ~~(2)(b) prescribe the amount of the fees provided for in 37-72-301, 37-72-304, and 37-72-305, which must~~
 9 ~~be nonrefundable, in an amount commensurate with the cost of administering this chapter, and deposited in the~~
 10 ~~state special revenue fund for the use of the department;. The department shall set fees commensurate with~~
 11 ~~costs.~~

12 ~~(3)(c) regulate the use of explosives and grant variances under the provisions of 37-72-201, except that,~~
 13 ~~unless the department is making an investigation under 37-72-203(2), the department does not have the power~~
 14 ~~under this chapter to make inspections into construction blasting and may not adopt rules providing for~~
 15 ~~inspections related to construction blasting or for inspectors to carry out inspections related to construction~~
 16 ~~blasting;~~

17 ~~(4)(d) provide for the form of the license and pocket card provided for in 37-72-307; and~~
 18 ~~(5)(e) provide for the conduct of the business of the department under this chapter and govern~~
 19 ~~department proceedings under 37-72-203.~~

20 ~~(2) As used in this section, the term "fees commensurate with costs" has the meaning provided in~~
 21 ~~37-1-134."~~

22
 23 ~~Section 3.~~ Section 37-73-221, MCA, is amended to read:

24 ~~"37-73-221. Reasonable fees -- deposit of fees and fines. (1) All fees established by the The~~
 25 ~~department under this chapter must be shall set fees commensurate with the respective program costs costs,~~
 26 ~~as that term is defined in 37-1-134. Fees collected by the department under this chapter must be deposited in~~
 27 ~~an account in the state special revenue fund for the use of the program.~~

28 ~~(2) Fines collected under this chapter must be deposited in the state general fund."~~

29
 30 ~~Section 4.~~ Section 50-74-320, MCA, is amended to read:

1 ~~—————"50-74-320. Examinations -- fees -- third parties. (1) The department shall administer the engineer~~
2 ~~examinations at least once every 3 months at places within the state as determined by the department.~~

3 ~~————(2) The department shall determine the fees to be charged an applicant for each examination and~~
4 ~~reexamination. The department shall set fees must be commensurate with costs, as that term is defined in~~
5 ~~37-1-134.~~

6 ~~————(3) The department may use a third party to provide examination and grading services."~~

7
8 ~~———— **Section 5.** Section 50-76-104, MCA, is amended to read:~~

9 ~~————"50-76-104. Application, examination, and fee for license. (1) Application for licenses must be made~~
10 ~~to the department and submitted with the appropriate fee that is set commensurate with the cost of administering~~
11 ~~this program, to be deposited in the state special revenue fund for use by the department.~~

12 ~~————(2) The department shall determine by rule the fees to be charged an applicant for each examination and~~
13 ~~reexamination. The~~

14 ~~————(3) In setting fees must be under this section, the department shall set fees commensurate with costs,~~
15 ~~as that term is defined in 37-1-134.~~

16 ~~————(3)(4) The department may use a third party to perform examination and grading services."~~

17
18 ~~**SECTION 1. SECTION 37-1-134, MCA, IS AMENDED TO READ:**~~

19 ~~**"37-1-134. Fees commensurate with costs Boards -- costs.** Each board allocated to the department~~
20 ~~shall set board fees related to the respective program area that are commensurate with costs for licensing,~~
21 ~~including fees for initial licensing, reciprocity, renewals, applications, inspections, and audits. A board may set~~
22 ~~an examination fee that must be commensurate with costs. A board that issues endorsements and licenses~~
23 ~~specialties shall set respective fees commensurate with costs: (1) Each board allocated to the department shall~~
24 ~~set board fees related to its program area that provide the amount of money usually needed for the operation of~~
25 ~~the board for services, including but not limited to licensing, reciprocity, renewals, applications, inspections,~~
26 ~~investigations, compliance, discipline, and audits. The amount needed for the operation of the board is based on~~
27 ~~the license renewal years as set by the board. In setting the fees, the board must consider the revenues and~~
28 ~~expenses incurred in the prior 5 licensing renewal years, but a board's cash balances must not exceed two times~~
29 ~~the board's annual appropriation level. Unless otherwise provided by law, the department may establish~~
30 ~~standardized administrative fees commensurate with costs, including These fees may include but are not limited~~

1 to fees for administrative services such as license verification, duplicate licenses, late penalty renewals, licensee
2 lists, and other administrative service fees determined by the department as applicable to all boards and
3 department programs. The department shall collect administrative fees on behalf of each board or department
4 program and deposit the fees in the state special revenue fund in the appropriate account for each board or
5 department program. Administrative service costs not related to a specific board or program area may be
6 equitably distributed to board or program areas as determined by the department. Each board and department
7 program shall maintain records sufficient to support the fees charged for each program area.

8 (2) The department and the boards shall adopt rules regarding all fees."

9

10 **Section 2.** Section 81-1-102, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"81-1-102. Duties and powers of department -- fees based on costs -- notice of rules and orders.**

12 (1) The department shall exercise general supervision over and, so far as possible, protect the livestock interests
13 of the state from theft and disease and recommend legislation that in the judgment of the department fosters the
14 livestock industry. The department may compel the attendance of witnesses, employ counsel to assist in the
15 prosecution of violations of laws made for the protection of livestock interests, and assist in the prosecution of
16 persons charged with illegal branding or theft of livestock or any other crime under the laws of this state for the
17 protection of stock owners. It may adopt rules governing the recording and use of livestock brands.

18 (2) Except as provided in 81-8-901, the department shall by rule establish all fees that it is authorized
19 to charge, commensurate with costs ~~as provided in 37-1-134.~~

20 (3) (a) In addition to the requirements of Title 2, chapter 4, the department shall provide notice of
21 adopted, amended, and repealed administrative rules and orders as provided in subsection (3)(b).

22 (b) Within 10 working days of the effective date of a rule or order, notice of the rule or order must be
23 published on the department's website and provided to each livestock market and brand office. The department
24 shall provide the notification by electronic means to each conservation district, veterinarian's office, and county
25 extension office in the state and to any person or to the office of any professional or trade organization or member
26 of those entities who has made a request to the department to be informed of the adoption, amendment, or repeal
27 of a rule or order by the department.

28 (c) The notice provided pursuant to this subsection (3) must include a brief summary of the contents of
29 the rule or order and instructions for accessing a complete copy of the rule or order electronically or by mail.

30 (4) The department shall perform the duties assigned to the department relating to the administration

1 and regulation of alternative livestock ranches."

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3 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2015.

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