

## 1 HOUSE BILL NO. 82

2 INTRODUCED BY J. BACHMEIER

3 BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

4  
 5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE VERTEBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM;  
 6 REVISING THE LIST OF VERTEBRATE PESTS; ELIMINATING DEPARTMENT AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE  
 7 CERTAIN SUPPLIES; ELIMINATING THE RODENTICIDE FUND AND USE OF THAT FUND; ELIMINATING  
 8 THE VERTEBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL; AMENDING SECTION 80-7-1101, MCA;  
 9 AND REPEALING SECTIONS 80-7-1103, 80-7-1104, 80-7-1105, AND 80-7-1107, MCA."

10  
 11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

12  
 13 **Section 1.** Section 80-7-1101, MCA, is amended to read:  
 14 **"80-7-1101. Department to operate vertebrate pest management program.** The department may  
 15 establish and operate organized and systematic programs for the management and suppression of vertebrate  
 16 pests. Vertebrate pests ~~are defined as include but are not limited to~~ ARE DEFINED AS jackrabbits, prairie dogs,  
 17 ground squirrels, pocket gophers, rats, mice, skunks, raccoons, bats, snakes, voles, and depredatory and  
 18 nuisance birds. and the following depredatory Depredatory and nuisance birds include but are not limited to ARE  
 19 DEFINED AS: blackbirds, cowbirds, starlings, house sparrows, and feral pigeons, when they are injurious to  
 20 agriculture, other industries, and the public. For this purpose, the department may enter into written agreements  
 21 with appropriate federal agencies, other state agencies, counties, associations, corporations, or individuals  
 22 covering the methods and procedures to be followed in the management and suppression of these vertebrate  
 23 pests, the extent of supervision to be exercised by the department, and the use and expenditure of funds  
 24 appropriated, when this cooperation is necessary to promote the management and suppression of vertebrate  
 25 pests. Management is the correct identification of a vertebrate pest; recognition of its biology and environmental  
 26 needs; assessment of the pest's damage, injury, or nuisance to agriculture, industry, or the public prior to  
 27 selecting and implementing any integrated or individual control methods to reduce, prevent, or suppress these  
 28 damages, nuisances, or injuries; and evaluating the effects of these control methods. THIS SECTION DOES NOT  
 29 APPLY TO NONGAME WILDLIFE MANAGED OR PROTECTED SUBJECT TO TITLE 87, CHAPTER 5, PART 1."

30

