

HOUSE BILL NO. 377

INTRODUCED BY A. REDFIELD

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THE BOARD OF MILK CONTROL TO ADOPT RULES RELATED TO THE CALCULATION OF MILK LICENSE FEES; AND AMENDING SECTION 81-23-202, MCA."

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

Section 1. Section 81-23-202, MCA, is amended to read:

"81-23-202. Licenses -- disposition of income. (1) A producer, producer-distributor, distributor, or jobber may not engage in the business of producing or selling milk subject to this chapter in this state without first having obtained a license from the department as provided in 81-22-202 or, in the case of milk entering this state from another state or foreign nation, without complying with the requirements of the Montana Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and without being licensed under this chapter by the board. The annual fee for the license is \$2, is due before July 1, and must be deposited by the department in the general fund. The license required by this chapter is in addition to any other license required by state law or any municipality of this state. This chapter applies to every part of the state of Montana.

(2) In addition to the annual license fee, the board shall, in each year, before April 1, for the purpose of securing funds to administer and enforce this chapter, levy an assessment upon producers, producer-distributors, and distributors as follows:

(a) a fee per hundredweight on the total volume of all milk subject to this chapter produced and sold by a producer-distributor;

(b) a fee per hundredweight on the total volume of all milk subject to this chapter sold by a producer;

(c) a fee per hundredweight on the total volume of all milk subject to this chapter sold by a distributor, excepting that which is sold to another distributor.

(3) The board shall adopt rules fixing the amount of ~~each fee~~ the fees under this section, including rules identifying the milk hundredweight equivalent conversion factor used for calculating the amount of the fees levied on manufactured dairy products. The amounts may not exceed levels sufficient to provide for the administration of this chapter. The fee assessed on a producer or on a distributor may not be more than one-half the fee assessed on a producer-distributor.

