

HOUSE BILL NO. 278

INTRODUCED BY D. MORTENSEN

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING POWERS OF LIVESTOCK INSPECTORS AND DETECTIVES; PROVIDING THAT INSPECTORS OR DETECTIVES DESIGNATED AS A PEACE OFFICER MAY ISSUE CITATIONS AND MAKE ARRESTS; AND AMENDING SECTION 81-1-201, MCA."

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

Section 1. Section 81-1-201, MCA, is amended to read:

"81-1-201. Appointment and powers. (1) The department may appoint stock inspectors and detectives necessary for the protection of the livestock interests of this state. The department shall designate which inspectors and detectives are considered ~~law enforcement officers, and those designated shall take the official oath required by law and shall have similar powers and authority to those conferred by law on deputy sheriffs.~~ peace officers as defined in 46-1-202. Each inspector or detective designated as a peace officer may issue citations and make arrests in connection with violations of livestock laws.

(2) (a) The board shall devise an examination for the qualification of stock inspectors and detectives designated as ~~law enforcement~~ peace officers and may appoint and employ only persons who successfully pass ~~such the~~ examination.

(b) The board shall promulgate administrative rules for the taking of this examination and define a passing grade."

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