

1 _____ BILL NO. _____

2 INTRODUCED BY _____
3 (Primary Sponsor)

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT LIMITING THE TAKE OF CERTAIN ANIMALS TO ONE PER
5 LIFETIME; PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 87-2-702, MCA; AND PROVIDING A
6 DELAYED EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY DATE."

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

9
10 **Section 1.** Section 87-2-702, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"87-2-702. Restrictions on special licenses -- availability of bear and mountain lion licenses. (1)**

12 A person who has killed or taken any game animal, except a deer, an elk, or an antelope, during the current
13 license year is not permitted to receive a special license under this chapter to hunt or kill a second game animal
14 of the same species.

15 (2) The commission may require applicants for special permits authorized by this chapter to obtain a
16 valid big game license for that species for the current year prior to applying for a special permit.

17 (3) (a) Except as provided in 87-2-815 and subsection (3)(b) of this section, a person may take only
18 one grizzly bear of each of the following species in Montana in that person's lifetime with a license authorized
19 by 87-2-701:

- 20 (i) grizzly bear;
- 21 (ii) antlered moose;
- 22 (iii) ram mountain sheep; and
- 23 (iv) mountain goat.

24 (b) The provisions of this section do not apply to licenses issued for disease management and
25 depopulation purposes.

26 (4) ~~(a)~~ Except as provided in 87-1-271(2) and 87-2-815 and subject to the provisions of subsection
27 (3) of this section, a person who receives a moose, mountain goat, or limited mountain sheep license, as
28 authorized by 87-2-701, with the exception of an antlerless moose or an adult ewe game management license

1 issued under 87-2-104, is not eligible to receive another special license for that species for the next 7 years. For
2 the purposes of this subsection ~~(4)(a)~~, "limited mountain sheep license" means a license that is valid for an area
3 in which the number of licenses issued is restricted.

4 ~~(b)(i) Except as provided in 87-1-271(2) and 87-2-815, a person who takes a legal ram mountain~~
5 ~~sheep with at least one horn that is equal to or greater than a three-fourths curl using an unlimited mountain~~
6 ~~sheep license or a population management license issued pursuant to 87-2-701 is not eligible to receive~~
7 ~~another special license for that species for the next 7 years. For the purposes of this subsection ~~(4)(b)(i)~~,~~
8 ~~"unlimited mountain sheep license" means a license that is valid for an area in which the number of licenses~~
9 ~~issued is not restricted.~~

10 ~~(iii)(5)~~ Before September 1 of each even-numbered year, the department shall report to the
11 environmental quality council information on:

12 ~~(A)(a)~~ mountain sheep harvested pursuant to ~~this subsection (4)~~ from the Tendoy Mountain herd;

13 ~~(B)(b)~~ efforts to collect tissue samples and other biological information from mountain sheep
14 harvested from the Tendoy Mountain herd to determine the immunity of surviving herd members to pneumonia
15 outbreaks; and

16 ~~(C)(c)~~ attempts by the department to share tissue samples and other biological information collected
17 from the Tendoy Mountain herd with Washington State University, other public entities, and private entities that
18 research the interaction between mountain sheep and domestic sheep.]

19 ~~(5)(6)~~ An application for a wild buffalo or bison license must be made on the same form and is subject
20 to the same license application deadline as the special license for moose, mountain goat, and mountain sheep.

21 ~~(6)(7)~~ (a) Licenses for spring bear hunts must be available for purchase at department offices after
22 April 15 of any license year. However, a person who purchases a license for a spring bear hunt after April 15 of
23 any license year may not use the license until 24 hours after the license is issued.

24 (b) Licenses for fall bear hunts must be available for purchase at department offices after August 31
25 of any license year. However, a person who purchases a license for a fall bear hunt after August 31 of any
26 license year may not use the license until 24 hours after the license is issued.

27 ~~(7)(8)~~ Licenses for mountain lion hunts must be available for purchase at department offices after
28 August 31 of any license year. However, a person who purchases a license for a mountain lion hunt after

1 August 31 of any license year may not use the license until 5 days after the license is issued. (Bracketed
2 language in ~~(4)(b)~~ (5) terminates July 1, 2027--sec. 3, Ch. 186, L. 2017)."

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4 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective March 1, 2022.

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6 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Applicability.** [This act] limits only the harvest of animals taken on or
7 after March 1, 2022.

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