

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 243

2 INTRODUCED BY M. MARLER, N. DURAM

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING HUNTER AND BOWHUNTER SAFETY AND
5 EDUCATION COURSE PARTICIPANTS TO COMPLETE FIELD DAYS; REQUIRING IN-PERSON COURSES;
6 ESTABLISHING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS; ~~AND~~ AMENDING SECTION 87-2-105, MCA; AND
7 PROVIDING A DELAYED EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

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11 **Section 1.** Section 87-2-105, MCA, is amended to read:

12 **"87-2-105. Hunter safety and education required.** (1) Except for a youth who qualifies for a license
13 pursuant to 87-2-805(4) or a person who has been issued an apprentice hunting certificate pursuant to 87-2-
14 810, a hunting license may not be issued to a person born after January 1, 1985, unless the person authorized
15 to issue the license determines proof of completion of:

- 16 (a) a Montana hunter safety and education course established in subsection (4) or (6);
17 (b) a hunter safety course in any other state or province; or
18 (c) a Montana hunter safety and education course that qualifies the person for a provisional
19 certificate as provided in 87-2-126.

20 (2) A hunting license may not be issued to a member of the regular armed forces of the United
21 States or to a member of the armed forces of a foreign government attached to the armed forces of the United
22 States who is assigned to active duty in Montana and who is otherwise considered a resident under 87-2-
23 102(1) or to a member's spouse or dependent, as defined in 87-2-102, who resides in the member's household,
24 unless the person authorized to issue the license determines proof of completion of a hunter safety and
25 education course approved by the department AND SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (8), or a hunter safety course in any
26 state or province.

27 (3) A bow and arrow license may not be issued to a resident or nonresident unless the person

Amendment - 1st Reading/2nd House-blue - Requested by: Marilyn Marler - (S) Finance and Claims

- 2023

68th Legislature 2023

Drafter: Casey Pallister, (406) 444-3067

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1 MUST BE CONDUCTED IN-PERSON FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE."

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3 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Staffing and reporting. The department shall use volunteers to teach
4 hunter safety and education courses as a first priority and existing personnel as a second priority. The
5 department shall provide a report to the environmental quality council that includes the number of courses and
6 field days taught as well as the staffing needs for those courses and field days.

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8 NEW SECTION. Section 3. Codification instruction. [Section 2] is intended to be codified as an
9 integral part of Title 87, chapter 2, part 1, and the provisions of Title 87, chapter 2, part 1, apply to [section 2].

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11 NEW SECTION. Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. [THIS ACT] IS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2024.

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13 NEW SECTION. Section 5. Termination. [Section 2] terminates January 1, 2027.

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