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SENATE BILL NO. 139

INTRODUCED BY T. MCGILLVRAY, P. FIELDER, J. HINKLE, B. BROWN

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING AN EXCEPTION TO THE REQUIREMENT TO PURCHASE A NONRESIDENT HOUND HANDLER LICENSE; AND AMENDING SECTION 87-2-519, MCA."

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

Section 1. Section 87-2-519, MCA, is amended to read:

"87-2-519. Class D-4--nonresident hound license. (1) Except as provided in subsections (5) and (6), in order for a nonresident to use a dog or dogs to aid in the pursuit or harvest of mountain lions or black bears, the nonresident shall first purchase, for a fee of \$250, a Class D-4 nonresident hound license. To be eligible, the nonresident must be:

(a) at least 18 years of age or older or turn 18 years of age before or during the season for which the license is issued; and

(b) a holder of a nonresident wildlife conservation license and a Class D-1 nonresident mountain lion license or a special nonresident black bear license.

(2) Not more than 80 Class D-4 licenses may be sold in any 1 license year.

(3) A Class D-4 license must be used as authorized by this section and any rule adopted by the department or commission.

(4) A holder of a Class D-4 license may only pursue mountain lions or black bears for the purpose of personally harvesting an animal and may not assist any other person in the pursuit of a lion or bear for harvest.

(5) A nonresident is not required to have a Class D-4 license to use a dog or dogs to aid in the pursuit or harvest of mountain lions or black bears when the nonresident:

(a) is hunting with an outfitter licensed pursuant to Title 37, chapter 47, part 3; or

(b) is a nonresident landowner who owns 640 or more contiguous acres. Nonpaying guests of the nonresident landowner may also hunt and pursue mountain lions or black bears on the landowner's property

Amendment - 1st Reading-white - Requested by: Tom McGillvray - (S) Fish and Game

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68th Legislature 2023

Drafter: Casey Pallister,

SB0139.001.001

1 and any adjacent public land within 2 miles of the landowner's property without a Class D-4 license; or

2 (c) is hunting or pursuing mountain lions **or black bears** as a nonpaying guest of a resident who

3 holds a license or licenses that entitles the holder to use a dog or dogs to aid in the pursuit or harvest of

4 mountain lions **or black bears**.

5 (6) A nonresident outfitter or guide licensed pursuant to Title 37, chapter 47, part 3, is not required
6 to have a Class D-4 license.

7 (7) After recovering the costs associated with license administration, the department shall use
8 revenue collected from the sale of licenses pursuant to this section for the management, conservation, and
9 monitoring of mountain lions and black bears."

10 - END -