

HOUSE BILL NO. 868

INTRODUCED BY J. SCHILLINGER, L. JONES

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE PROVISIONS OF HOUSE BILL NO. 2;  
ESTABLISHING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING FOR REPORTING BY THE DEPARTMENT OF  
FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS; PROVIDING FOR A TRANSFER OF FUNDS; AND PROVIDING AN  
EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Transfer of funds. By August 15, 2023, the state treasurer shall transfer  
\$100 from the general fund to the natural resources operations state special revenue account established in 15-  
38-301.

NEW SECTION. SECTION 2. PETROLEUM TANK RELEASE COMPENSATION BOARD REPORTING. (1) AT EACH  
QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND TRANSPORTATION BUDGET COMMITTEE DURING THE 2023-  
2024 INTERIM, THE FOLLOWING MUST BE PRESENT TO REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE:

- (A) A MEMBER OF THE PETROLEUM TANK RELEASE COMPENSATION BOARD;
- (B) THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE PETROLEUM TANK RELEASE COMPENSATION BOARD;
- (C) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY; AND
- (D) A MEMBER OR REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PETROLEUM MARKETERS AND CONVENIENCE STORE

ASSOCIATION.

- (2) THE INDIVIDUALS LISTED IN SUBSECTION (1) SHALL REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING:
  - (A) THE PROGRESS ON THE CLOSING OF SITES;
  - (B) THE AMOUNT OF THE FUND BALANCE IN THE PETROLEUM TANK RELEASE CLEANUP FUND;
  - (C) THE PORTION OF THE FUND BALANCE THAT IS ALLOCATED OR ENCUMBERED;
  - (D) ANY SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE THE PROCESS OF CLOSING SITES; AND
  - (E) THE TIMELINESS OF BOARD PAYMENTS FOR COMPLETED CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANS.

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(3) THE INDIVIDUALS LISTED IN SUBSECTION (1) MUST BE AVAILABLE FOR QUESTIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

NEW SECTION. SECTION 3. REPORTING. (1) BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2023, THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND TRANSPORTATION BUDGET COMMITTEE AND THE LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE DESCRIBING ALL PROJECTS INITIATED BUT NOT COMPLETED, BEGINNING WITH PROJECTS FIRST APPROPRIATED IN 2015 AND CONTINUING THROUGH THE 2023 BIENNIUM IN EACH OF THE PROGRAM AREAS LISTED IN SUBSECTION (4).

(2) THE REPORT MUST IDENTIFY FOR EACH PROJECT:

(A) THE NAME OF THE PROJECT;

(B) A BROAD DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT'S OBJECTIVES;

(C) THE PROJECT'S PHYSICAL LOCATION;

(D) A DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK COMPLETED;

(E) THE AMOUNT OF MONEY EXPENDED TO DATE;

(F) THE AMOUNT OBLIGATED BUT UNSPENT; AND

(G) A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEMS OR OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED THAT HAVE PROHIBITED COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT.

(3) EVERY QUARTER AFTER THAT, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND TRANSPORTATION BUDGET COMMITTEE AND THE LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE DESCRIBING THE PROGRESS A PROGRAM MADE IN COMPLETING THE PROJECTS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1). THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE:

(A) ACTIONS TAKEN TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT;

(B) FUNDS EXPENDED DURING THE QUARTER;

(C) THE BALANCE OF FUNDS OBLIGATED BUT NOT SPENT; AND

(D) PROBLEMS OR OBSTACLES INHIBITING PROJECT COMPLETION.

(4) THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS SHALL PROVIDE REPORTS AS OUTLINED IN THIS SECTION:

- 1            (A) WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE;
- 2            (B) UPLAND GAME BIRD ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM;
- 3            (C) MIGRATING BIRD WETLAND PROGRAM;
- 4            (D) FUTURE FISHERIES;
- 5            (E) HATCHERIES MAINTENANCE; AND
- 6            (F) FISH CONNECTION.

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8            NEW SECTION. Section 4. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2023.

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