



AN ACT REVISING PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER LAWS; INCORPORATING THE FEDERAL STANDARD FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION INTO MONTANA LAW AS THE GENERAL STANDARD FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION OR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER; REQUIRING THE APPLICANT FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION OR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER TO SHOW WHY AN INJUNCTION OR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER SHOULD BE GRANTED; PROVIDING A DECLARATION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT; AMENDING SECTIONS 27-19-201, 27-19-301, AND 27-19-315, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

Section 1. Section 27-19-201, MCA, is amended to read:

"27-19-201. When preliminary injunction may be granted -- legislative intent. ~~An injunction order may be granted in the following cases:~~

~~(1) when it appears that the applicant is entitled to the relief demanded and the relief or any part of the relief consists in restraining the commission or continuance of the act complained of, either for a limited period or perpetually;~~

~~(2) when it appears that the commission or continuance of some act during the litigation would produce a great or irreparable injury to the applicant;~~

~~(3) when it appears during the litigation that the adverse party is doing or threatens or is about to do or is procuring or suffering to be done some act in violation of the applicant's rights, respecting the subject of the action, and tending to render the judgment ineffectual;~~

(1) A preliminary injunction order or temporary restraining order may be granted when the applicant establishes that:

(a) the applicant is likely to succeed on the merits;

(b) the applicant is likely to suffer irreparable harm in the absence of preliminary relief;

(c) the balance of equities tips in the applicant's favor; and

(d) the order is in the public interest.

(2) An injunction order may be granted in either of the following cases between persons, not including a person being sued in that person's official capacity:

(4)(a) when it appears that the adverse party, during the pendency of while the action is pending, threatens or is about to remove or to dispose of the adverse party's property with intent to defraud the applicant, in which case an injunction order may be granted to restrain the removal or disposition; or

(5)(b) when it appears that the applicant has applied for an order under the provisions of 40-4-121 or an order of protection under Title 40, chapter 15.

(3) The applicant for an injunction provided for in this section bears the burden of demonstrating the need for an injunction order.

(4) It is the intent of the legislature that the language in subsection (1) mirror the federal preliminary injunction standard, and that interpretation and application of subsection (1) closely follow United States supreme court case law."

Section 2. Section 27-19-301, MCA, is amended to read:

"27-19-301. Notice of application -- hearing. (1) No preliminary injunction order may be issued without reasonable notice to the adverse party of the time and place ~~of the making of the application therefor~~ that application for the injunction order was made.

(2) Before granting an injunction order, the court or judge shall make an order requiring cause to be shown, at a specified time and place, why the injunction should ~~not~~ be granted, and the adverse party may in the meantime be restrained as provided in 27-19-314."

Section 3. Section 27-19-315, MCA, is amended to read:

"27-19-315. When restraining order may be granted without notice. A temporary restraining order may be granted without written or oral notice to the adverse party or the party's attorney only if:

(1) ~~it clearly appears from specific facts shown by affidavit or by the verified complaint that a delay~~

~~would cause immediate and irreparable injury to the applicant before the adverse party or the party's attorney could be heard in opposition~~ the applicant or the applicant's attorney makes a showing that the requirements of 27-19-201(1) are met; and and

(2) the applicant or the applicant's attorney certifies to the court in writing the efforts, if any, that have been made to give notice and the reasons supporting the applicant's claim that notice should not be required."

Section 4. Severability. If a part of [this act] is invalid, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid part remain in effect. If a part of [this act] is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part remains in effect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid applications.

Section 5. Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,
SB 191, originated in the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate

President of the Senate

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2023.

Speaker of the House

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2023.

SENATE BILL NO. 191

INTRODUCED BY S. FITZPATRICK

AN ACT REVISING PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION AND TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER LAWS; INCORPORATING THE FEDERAL STANDARD FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION INTO MONTANA LAW AS THE GENERAL STANDARD FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION OR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER; REQUIRING THE APPLICANT FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION OR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER TO SHOW WHY AN INJUNCTION OR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER SHOULD BE GRANTED; PROVIDING A DECLARATION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 27-19-201, 27-19-301, AND 27-19-315, AND 75-1-201, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.