

1 SENATE BILL NO. 83
2 INTRODUCED BY M. CUFFE
3 BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION
4
5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE WESTERN MONTANA CONSERVATION
6 COMMISSION ACT; ELIMINATING THE FLATHEAD BASIN COMMISSION AND THE UPPER COLUMBIA
7 CONSERVATION COMMISSION; ELIMINATING LAWS RELATED TO THE FLATHEAD BASIN COMMISSION
8 ACT; PROVIDING REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING MEMBERS AND NONVOTING REPRESENTATIVES;
9 ESTABLISHING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS; REPEALING SECTIONS 2-15-3310, 2-15-3330, 2-15-3331,
10 2-15-3332, 75-7-301, 75-7-302, 75-7-303, 75-7-304, 75-7-305, 75-7-307, 75-7-308, AND 80-7-1026, MCA;
11 AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE."

12
13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

14
15 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Western Montana conservation commission.** (1) There is a western
16 Montana conservation commission consisting of 16 voting members. The commission is attached to the
17 department of natural resources and conservation for administrative purposes only, as prescribed in 2-15-121.

18 (2) The governor shall appoint nine of the voting members who represent each of the following
19 groups within western Montana:

- 20 (a) the hydropower utility industry;
- 21 (b) an electric cooperative;
- 22 (c) a private landowner who is a member of an irrigation district OR A WATER USERS' ASSOCIATION;
- 23 (d) a private citizen at large;
- 24 (e) private industry; and
- 25 (f) a director, officer, staff person, or member of a natural resource, conservation, or recreation
26 organization, representing each of the following geographic areas:
 - 27 (i) the Clark Fork river basin upstream from Missoula, including the Blackfoot river basin;

Amendment - 1st Reading/2nd House-blue - Requested by: Tom France - (H) Natural Resources

- 2023

68th Legislature 2023

Drafter: Joe Kolman, 406-444-3747

SB0083.002.001

- 1 repealed:
- 2 2-15-3310. Upper Columbia conservation commission.
- 3 2-15-3330. Flathead basin commission -- membership -- compensation.
- 4 2-15-3331. Flathead basin commission.
- 5 2-15-3332. Flathead basin commission staff and office location.
- 6 75-7-301. Short title.
- 7 75-7-302. Purpose.
- 8 75-7-303. Definitions.
- 9 75-7-304. Duties of the commission.
- 10 75-7-305. Commission authority.
- 11 75-7-307. Special county government authority.
- 12 75-7-308. Cooperation with other agencies and organizations.
- 13 80-7-1026. Upper Columbia conservation commission -- purpose and duties.

14
15 **NEW SECTION. Section 10. Codification instruction.** (1) [Section 1] is intended to be codified as
16 an integral part of Title 2, chapter 15, part 33, and the provisions of Title 2, chapter 15, part 33, apply to [section
17 1].

18 (2) [Sections 2 through 8] are intended to be codified as a new chapter in Title 85, and the
19 provisions of Title 85 apply to [sections 2 through 8].

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21 **NEW SECTION. Section 11. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2023.

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23 **NEW SECTION. Section 12. Termination.** [This act] terminates June 30, 2029.

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