

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 677
2 INTRODUCED BY T. FRANCE

3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING BIRD HUNTING DOG LAWS ~~RELATED TO~~
5 ~~PROFESSIONAL TRAINERS; DEFINING "PROFESSIONAL TRAINER";~~ PROHIBITING TRAINING BY
6 ~~PROFESSIONAL TRAINERS~~ WITHIN CERTAIN DATES ON PUBLIC LANDS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS
7 ~~87-3-601 AND SECTION~~ 87-3-602, MCA."

8
9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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11 ~~Section 1. Section 87-3-601, MCA, is amended to read:~~

12 ~~"87-3-601. Definitions. As used in this part, the following definitions apply:~~

13 ~~(1) "Bird hunting dog" means a dog trained or being trained to point, flush, or retrieve game birds.~~

14 ~~(2) "Field trial" means an organized event affiliated with a national organization to examine,~~
15 ~~evaluate, or test the ability of bird hunting dogs to point, flush, or retrieve game birds.~~

16 ~~(3) "Game bird" means a bird defined as an upland game bird or migratory game bird in 87-2-101.~~

17 ~~(4) "Professional trainer" means any person who receives pay or other compensation from another~~
18 ~~party to train any breed of dog for the purpose of hunting game birds."~~

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20 **Section 1.** Section 87-3-602, MCA, is amended to read:

21 **"87-3-602. Training bird hunting dogs.** (1) Training of bird hunting dogs is allowed.

22 (2) A person training bird hunting dogs with a method that kills game birds shall tag or mark the
23 game bird prior to release. Game birds must be obtained from a game bird farm licensed under 87-4-903 or
24 from a source of game birds approved by the department.

25 (3) A person who takes an untagged or unmarked game bird while training a bird hunting dog
26 outside of the established season for that species or who is not licensed to take that species shall immediately
27 report the taking to a representative of the department.

28 (4) Training of a bird hunting dog by: ~~a professional trainer specific to that person's business~~

Amendment - 1st Reading-white - Requested by: Tom France - (H) Fish, Wildlife and Parks

- 2023

68th Legislature 2023

Drafter: Toni Henneman, 406-444-3593

HB0677.001.001

1 ~~activities is prohibited on state and federal lands from April 1 to August 31~~

2 ~~(a) by residents and nonresidents is prohibited on public and private land annually from May 15 to~~

3 ~~July 15; and~~

4 ~~(b) by nonresidents is prohibited on public land from July 15 to August 31."~~

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- END -

AMENDED