

1 SENATE BILL NO. 533

2 INTRODUCED BY M. NOLAND, G. HERTZ

3

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING LAWS RELATED TO NONRESIDENT HUNTING;
5 ESTABLISHING A 14-DAY LIMIT FOR NONRESIDENT HUNTERS OF GAME ANIMALS; ~~ELIMINATING~~
6 ~~DISCOUNTED LICENSES FOR NONRESIDENT COLLEGE STUDENTS~~; PROVIDING RULEMAKING
7 AUTHORITY; AMENDING SECTION 87-1-304, MCA; ~~AND REPEALING SECTION 87-2-525, MCA.~~"

8

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

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11 **Section 1.** Section 87-1-304, MCA, is amended to read:

12 **"87-1-304. Fixing of seasons and bag and possession limits.** (1) Subject to the provisions of 87-5-
13 302 and subsections (7) through (9) of this section, the commission may:

14 (a) fix seasons, bag limits, possession limits, and season limits;

15 (b) open or close or shorten or lengthen seasons on any species of game, bird, fish, or fur-bearing
16 animal as defined by 87-2-101;

17 (c) declare areas open to the hunting of deer, antelope, elk, moose, sheep, goat, mountain lion,
18 bear, wild buffalo or bison, and wolf by persons holding an archery stamp and the required license, permit, or
19 tag and designate times when only bows and arrows may be used to hunt deer, antelope, elk, moose, sheep,
20 goat, mountain lion, bear, wild buffalo or bison, and wolf in those areas;

21 (d) subject to the provisions of 87-1-301(6), restrict areas and species to hunting with only
22 specified hunting arms, including bow and arrow, for the reasons of safety or of providing diverse hunting
23 opportunities and experiences; and

24 (e) declare areas open to special license holders only and issue special licenses in a limited
25 number when the commission determines, after proper investigation, that a special season is necessary to
26 ensure the maintenance of an adequate supply of game birds, fish, or animals or fur-bearing animals. The
27 commission may declare a special season and issue special licenses when game birds, animals, or fur-bearing

**Amendment - 1st Reading/2nd House-blue - Requested by: Jonathan Karlen - (H) Fish,
Wildlife and Parks**

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Drafter: Toni Henneman, 406-444-3593

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1 commission for that area has been met.

2 (8) The commission may authorize a wolf trapping season that opens the first Monday after
3 Thanksgiving and closes March 15 of the following calendar year, except that the commission may adjust the
4 dates for specific wolf management units based on regional recommendations.

5 (9) There is established a special muzzleloader heritage hunting season that begins on the second
6 Saturday after the end of the regular season and lasts 9 days. During this season, subject to the provisions of
7 87-6-401(1)(i) and rules adopted by the commission, a person may take a deer or elk with a valid license or
8 permit using plain lead projectiles and a muzzleloading rifle that is charged with loose black powder, loose
9 pyrodex, or an equivalent loose black powder substitute and ignited by a flintlock, wheel lock, matchlock, or
10 percussion mechanism using a percussion or musket cap. The muzzleloading rifle must be a minimum of 45
11 caliber and may not have more than two barrels."

12 (10) (a) The commission may not allow nonresident hunters to hunt game animals, as defined in 87-
13 2-101, DEER, ELK, OR ANTELOPE for more than 14 calendar days during a calendar year.

14 (b) The commission shall adopt rules to implement subsection (10)(a).

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16 ~~NEW SECTION. Section 2. Repealer. The following section of the Montana Code Annotated is~~
17 ~~repealed:~~
18 ~~87-2-525. Nonresident college student licenses.~~

19 - END -