

1 _____ BILL NO. _____
2 INTRODUCED BY _____
3 (Primary Sponsor)
4 BY REQUEST OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT INCREASING PENALTIES FOR BLOCKED RAILROAD
6 CROSSINGS; AMENDING SECTION 69-14-626, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE
7 DATE."

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

10
11 **Section 1.** Section 69-14-626, MCA, is amended to read:

12 **"69-14-626. Prohibition on extended obstruction of highway crossings.** (1) It ~~shall be~~ is unlawful
13 for any corporation, association, or company to willfully obstruct, blockade, interfere with, or prevent the free
14 use of any public highway within the state where ~~such~~ the highway crosses any railroad track outside of
15 incorporated cities and towns by stopping any railroad train, car, engine, or locomotive for more than 15
16 minutes at any one time or by placing, depositing, or leaving any article or thing whatsoever on any railroad
17 track at the point where any public highway crosses ~~such~~ the track outside of incorporated cities and towns.

18 (2) Any corporation, association, or company ~~so~~ obstructing, blockading, or interfering with the free
19 use of ~~any such a~~ highway ~~shall be deemed as described in subsection (1) is~~ guilty of a misdemeanor and,
20 ~~upon~~ on conviction, ~~thereof~~ shall be punished by a fine of not less than ~~\$25~~ \$750 or more than ~~\$400~~ \$1,500.
21 This section ~~shall~~ may not be construed as repealing any existing laws prohibiting encroachments ~~upon~~ on or
22 obstruction of public highways."

23
24 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

25 - END -