HOUSE BILL NO. 122

INTRODUCED BY L. BREWSTER

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: “AN ACT REVISING RIGHT-OF-WAY LAWS FOR UTILITY LINES AND FACILITIES TO INCLUDE ~~BROADBAND LINES AND~~ NATURAL GAS PIPELINES; AND AMENDING SECTION 69-4-101, MCA.”

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

Section 1. Section 69-4-101, MCA, is amended to read:

"**69-4-101. Use of public right-of-way for utility lines and facilities.** A telegraph, telephone, electric light, ~~broadband,~~ natural gas, or electric power line corporation or public body or any other person owning or operating ~~such~~ a telegraph, telephone, electric light, ~~broadband,~~ or electric power line or natural gas pipeline is ~~hereby~~ authorized to install its respective plants and appliances necessary for service and to supply and distribute electricity and natural gas for lighting, heating, power, and other purposes and ~~to that end,~~ to construct ~~such~~ the telegraph, telephone, electric light, ~~broadband,~~ or electric power lines or natural gas pipelines, from point to point, along and ~~upon~~ on any of the public roads, streets, and highways in the state~~,~~ by the erection of necessary fixtures, including posts, piers, and abutments necessary for the wires and pipelines. The ~~same shall~~ telegraph, telephone, electric light, ~~broadband,~~ or electric power lines or natural gas pipelines must be ~~so~~ constructed so as not to ~~incommode~~ inconvenience or endanger the public in the use of ~~said~~ the roads, streets, or highways, and nothing ~~herein shall be so~~ in this section may be construed ~~as~~ to restrict the powers of city or town councils."

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