

Amendment - 2nd Reading-yellow - Requested by: Jill Cohenour - (H) Committee of the Whole

- 2025

69th Legislature 2025

Drafter: Maxwell Parson,

HB0219.001.002

HOUSE BILL NO. 219

INTRODUCED BY L. SCHUBERT, E. ALBUS, K. LOVE, C. SCHOMER, C. HINKLE, B. LER, J. SCHILLINGER,
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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PERMITTING REIMBURSEMENTS TO ALL INDIVIDUALS FOR
RECEIPTS OF COSTS INCURRED RELATED TO THE HUNTING OR TRAPPING OF WOLVES FOR ALL
LAWFULLY HARVESTED WOLVES; REQUIRING THE REPORTING OF REIMBURSEMENTS TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS AND AMENDING SECTION 87-6-214, MCA."

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

Section 1. Section 87-6-214, MCA, is amended to read:

"87-6-214. Unlawful contest or prize. (1) (a) Except as provided in subsections (1)(b) through (1)(d),
a person, firm, or club may not offer or give a prize, gift, or anything of value in connection with or as a bag limit
prize for the taking, capturing, killing, or in any manner acquiring any game, fowl, or fur-bearing animal or any
bird or animal protected by law.

(b) A prize may be awarded for any one game bird or fur-bearing animal on the basis of size,
quality, or rarity.

(c) A person may conduct or sponsor a contest for which the monetary prize, certificate, or award
does not exceed \$50 for a person who kills a game animal possessing the largest antlers or horns, carrying the
greatest weight, or having the longest body or any similar contest based ~~upon~~ on the size or weight of a game
animal or part of a game animal. The monetary restriction provided in this subsection (1)(c) does not apply to
recognition given by a nationally established and recognized Boone and Crockett trophy institute.

(d) Reimbursements for receipts of costs incurred related to the hunting or trapping of wolves may
be given to persons ~~licensed to hunt or trap wolves who lawfully harvest wolves~~ pursuant to Title 87, chapter
chapters 1 and 2.

(2) Reimbursements distributed pursuant to subsection (1)(d) must be reported to the department

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1 within 1 month of payment. The report must be delivered to the department by the person, firm, or club that
2 reimbursed the costs related to the lawful harvest of a wolf and must contain:
3 (a) an itemized receipt of the costs reimbursed to the person who lawfully harvested the wolf;
4 (b) the name and contact information of the person, firm, or club who reimbursed the person who
5 lawfully harvested the wolf;
6 (c) the name and contact information of the person who lawfully harvested the wolf;
7 (d) a cumulative total of all reimbursements distributed by the person, firm, or club for the calendar
8 year in which the wolf was harvested; and
9 (e) proof of lawful harvest for the wolf for which reimbursement was distributed.
10 (3) (a) Except for information that is required by law to be reported to state or federal officials, the
11 department may not disclose information that may identify a person who receives or distributes reimbursement
12 for the lawful harvest of a wolf, pursuant to subsection (2), without the written consent of the person affected.
13 Information that may not be disclosed includes but is not limited to a person's name, address, phone number,
14 date of birth, social security number, and driver's license number.
15 (b) The department may publish aggregate reimbursement data at the hunting district level.
16 (2)(4) A person convicted of a violation of this section shall be fined not less than \$50 or more than
17 \$1,000 or be imprisoned in the county detention center for not more than 6 months, or both. In addition, the
18 person, upon on conviction or forfeiture of bond or bail, may be subject to forfeiture of any current hunting,
19 fishing, or trapping license issued by this state and the privilege to hunt, fish, or trap in this state or to use state
20 lands, as defined in 77-1-101, for recreational purposes for a period of time set by the court."

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