

SENATE BILL NO. 473

INTRODUCED BY B. PHALEN, D. LOGE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING LAWS RELATED TO WEATHER  
MODIFICATION; PROHIBITING WEATHER MODIFICATION GEOENGINEERING; PROVIDING  
DEFINITIONS; ~~AND~~ PROVIDING AN EXCEPTION; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Prohibiting weather modification by geoengineering. (1) The legislature finds that geoengineering poses risks to the environment and public health due to its experimental nature and potential for unintended consequences.

(2) Except as for weather modification by cloud seeding as prescribed in ~~85-3-101 through 85-3-424~~ Title 85, chapter 3, a person may not intentionally inject, release, or disperse chemicals, chemical compounds, substances, or apparatuses within the borders of Montana expressly for: geoengineering.

(a) engaging in weather modification and control;

(b) affecting temperature; or

(c) affecting the intensity of the sunlight.

~~(2)(3)~~ As used in this section:

~~(a) "chemical compounds" means any combination of any number of chemicals;~~

~~(b) "chemicals" means industrial substances, whether simple, compound, or obtained through the process of the science and art of chemistry, whether of organic or inorganic origin; and~~

~~(c) "weather modification and control" means changing or controlling or attempting to change or control, by artificial methods, the natural development of atmospheric cloud forms or precipitation forms that occur in the troposphere.~~

(a) "Cloud seeding" means a proven method of increasing precipitation within existing cloud systems to support water resource management efforts, including for agriculture and snow making.

(b) "Geoengineering" means large-scale, intentional interventions in the earth's climate system

# Amendment - 1st Reading-white - Requested by: Steve Gist - (H) Natural Resources

- 2025

69th Legislature 2025

Drafter: Jason Mohr,

SB0473.001.005

1 [designed to counteract or mitigate global climate change, including stratospheric aerosol injection, solar](#)  
2 [radiation management, and marine cloud brightening, that involve altering atmospheric, oceanic, or terrestrial](#)  
3 [systems on a planetary scale with potentially unpredictable and widespread environmental consequences.](#)

4 [\(c\) "Marine cloud brightening" means spraying sea salt particles into marine clouds to increase](#)  
5 [reflectivity and reduce the solar radiation absorbed by the earth.](#)

6 [\(d\) "Solar radiation management" means managing solar radiation reaching the earth's surface](#)  
7 [through stratospheric aerosol injection, space-based reflectors, or cloud albedo enhancement.](#)

8 [\(e\) "Stratospheric aerosol injection" means injecting reflective particles into the stratosphere to](#)  
9 [reflect sunlight and reduce global temperatures.](#)

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11 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an  
12 integral part of Title 75, chapter 2, and the provisions of Title 75, chapter 2, apply to [section 1].

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14 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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