



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

## Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: HB0504.01: Expand livestock loss eligibility to include domestic bison

Primary Sponsor: Eric Tilleman Status: As Introduced

☐ Included in the Executive Budget ☐ Needs to be included in HB 2 ☐ Significant Local Gov Impact  
☐ Significant Long-Term Impacts ☐ Technical Concerns ☐ Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

### FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2026 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029 Difference</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Revenues</b>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Net Impact</b>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>General Fund Balance</b>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>

### Description of fiscal impact

HB 504 expands eligibility for reimbursement of domestic bison under MCA 2-15-3112, the Livestock Loss Mitigation Program. This program falls under the umbrella of the Department of Livestock.

### FISCAL ANALYSIS

#### Assumptions

#### Department of Livestock

1. The department estimates very few bison claims will be submitted. USDA Wildlife Services has only responded to three incidents in the past 5 years.
2. Bison claims are estimated at approximately \$3,600 per loss. Over the past five years commercial cattle loss reimbursements have averaged approximately \$1,800 each.
3. Since 2019, the board has paid out an average of \$251,194 annually on an average of 292 total loss claims per year.
4. The Livestock Loss Board program is appropriated \$450,000 annually to payout loss claims and has an additional \$300,000 in reserve for unusually large yearly claim totals.
5. In the event more bison losses are reported, funding reserves should be sufficient to compensate until additional appropriations can be justified and requested.

#### Department of Revenue

6. There may be more contacts for this verification, but the impact is expected to be minimal and can be accomplished with existing resources.

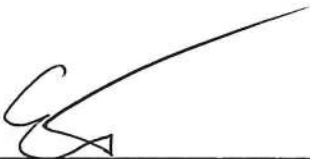
#### Secretary of State's Office

7. This bill requires the Office of the Secretary of State to notify each federally recognized tribal government

**Fiscal Note Request - As Introduced**

*(continued)*

in Montana. While there may be a minimal fiscal impact, the Office of the Secretary of State they are anticipated to be de minimis.



Sponsor's Initials



Date



Budget Director's Initials

2/20/2025

Date