

1 _____ BILL NO. _____

2 INTRODUCED BY _____

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND
5 PARKS TO OFFER FINANCIAL REWARDS AND REWARD PERMITS AS PART OF THE FISH, WILDLIFE,
6 AND PARKS CRIMESTOPPERS PROGRAM; AND AMENDING SECTION 87-5-605, MCA."

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

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10 **Section 1.** Section 87-5-605, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"87-5-605. Powers and duties of department -- rules.** (1) The department shall:

12 (a) create, maintain, and promote a statewide fish, wildlife, and parks crimestoppers program in
13 order to assist law enforcement agencies in detecting and combating fish, wildlife, and parks-related crimes;
14 and

15 (b) consider the board's recommendations and take action on them.

16 (2) The department may:

17 (a) advise and assist in the creation and maintenance of local programs, including neighborhood
18 watch programs;

19 (b) encourage the channeling of information from state and local programs to law enforcement
20 agencies;

21 (c) foster the detection of fish, wildlife, and parks-related crimes by the public;

22 (d) encourage the public, through a reward program or otherwise, to provide information that
23 assists in the prosecution of fish, wildlife, and parks-related crimes;

24 (e) offer financial rewards, reward permits, or other incentives to the public;

25 ~~(e)(f)~~ promote state and local programs through the media;

26 ~~(f)(g)~~ accept gifts, grants, or donations for the furtherance of the program and spend these in
27 compliance with the conditions of the gifts, grants, or donations; and

28 ~~(g)(h)~~ adopt rules necessary to administer the provisions of this part."

69th Legislature 2025

LC0413.1

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- END -