_____ BILL NO. _____

INTRODUCED BY _____

BY REQUEST OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING APPROPRIATIONS FOR NOXIOUS WEED PROGRAMS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Appropriations.** The following money is appropriated from the marijuana state special revenue account created in 16-12-111 to the department of agriculture for the biennium beginning July 1, 2027:

(1) $600,000 for early detection rapid response efforts to combat high-priority noxious weeds;

(2) $200,000 for a statewide education campaign targeting specific audiences and providing training and capacity-building opportunities for county weed districts, educators, and land managers;

(3) $300,000 for coordination of statewide biocontrol efforts;

(4) $100,000 for noxious weed management on land owned by the department of fish, wildlife, and parks;

(5) $100,000 for noxious weed management on land owned by the department of natural resources and conservation;

(6) $100,000 for noxious weed management on land owned by the department of transportation;

(7) $220,000 for research and development to assess noxious weed management tools, revegetation efforts, and the economic and ecological impacts of noxious weeds on Montana producers; and

(8) $105,000 for the collection, standardization, housing, modeling, and sharing of noxious weed population data by the Montana natural heritage program of the Montana state library.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2027.

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