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HOUSE BILL NO. 563

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INTRODUCED BY S. FITZPATRICK

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROTECTING THE FILING OF OR PARTICIPATION IN
5 LICENSING COMPLAINT INVESTIGATIONS; VOIDING CONTRACTS BARRING THE FILING OF OR
6 PARTICIPATION IN LICENSING COMPLAINT INVESTIGATIONS; ESTABLISHING UNPROFESSIONAL
7 CONDUCT; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

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11 **NEW SECTION. Section 1. Complaint filing protected -- unprofessional conduct.** (1) A contract
12 or agreement provision is void if it prohibits, discourages, or otherwise bars or purports to bar:

13 (a) the filing or pursuing of a complaint allowable under 37-1-308 or 37-1-402; or
14 (b) an individual from participating in or cooperating with an investigation of a complaint filed under
15 37-1-308 or 37-1-402.

16 (2) It is unprofessional conduct for a licensee to:

17 (a) be party to a contract or agreement in violation of this section; or
18 (b) retaliate against a person for filing a complaint allowable under 37-1-308 or 37-1-402.

19 (3) This section does not apply to general waivers of claims. General waivers of claims may not be
20 interpreted to apply to complaints allowable under 37-1-308 or 37-1-402.

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22 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
23 integral part of Title 37, chapter 1, part 1, and the provisions of Title 37, chapter 1, part 1, apply to [section 1].

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25 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Saving clause.** [This act] does not affect rights and duties that matured,
26 penalties that were incurred, or proceedings that were begun before [the effective date of this act].

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28 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

69th Legislature 2025

HB 563.1

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