

## 1 HOUSE BILL NO. 82

2 INTRODUCED BY J. BACHMEIER

3 BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE VERTEBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM;  
6 REVISING THE LIST OF VERTEBRATE PESTS; ELIMINATING DEPARTMENT AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE  
7 CERTAIN SUPPLIES; ELIMINATING THE RODENTICIDE FUND AND USE OF THAT FUND; ELIMINATING  
8 THE VERTEBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL; AMENDING SECTION 80-7-1101, MCA;  
9 AND REPEALING SECTIONS 80-7-1103, 80-7-1104, 80-7-1105, AND 80-7-1107, MCA."

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

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13 **Section 1.** Section 80-7-1101, MCA, is amended to read:  
14 **"80-7-1101. Department to operate vertebrate pest management program.** The department may  
15 establish and operate organized and systematic programs for the management and suppression of vertebrate  
16 pests. Vertebrate pests ~~are defined as~~ include but are not limited to jackrabbits, prairie dogs, ground squirrels,  
17 pocket gophers, rats, mice, skunks, raccoons, bats, ~~snakes, voles, and depredatory and nuisance birds.~~ and the  
18 ~~following depredatory~~ Depredatory and nuisance birds include but are not limited to: blackbirds, cowbirds,  
19 starlings, house sparrows, and feral pigeons, when they are injurious to agriculture, other industries, and the  
20 public. For this purpose, the department may enter into written agreements with appropriate federal agencies,  
21 other state agencies, counties, associations, corporations, or individuals covering the methods and procedures  
22 to be followed in the management and suppression of these vertebrate pests, the extent of supervision to be  
23 exercised by the department, and the use and expenditure of funds appropriated, when this cooperation is  
24 necessary to promote the management and suppression of vertebrate pests. Management is the correct  
25 identification of a vertebrate pest; recognition of its biology and environmental needs; assessment of the pest's  
26 damage, injury, or nuisance to agriculture, industry, or the public prior to selecting and implementing any  
27 integrated or individual control methods to reduce, prevent, or suppress these damages, nuisances, or injuries;  
28 and evaluating the effects of these control methods."

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30 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Repealer.** The following sections of the Montana Code Annotated are

- 1 repealed:
- 2 80-7-1103. Purchase and sale of vertebrate pest management supplies.
- 3 80-7-1104. Vertebrate pest management advisory council.
- 4 80-7-1105. Rodenticide fund.
- 5 80-7-1107. Acceptance and expenditure of gifts, grants, and funds.
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