



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

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

Section 1. Section 80-7-1101, MCA, is amended to read:

"80-7-1101. Department to operate vertebrate pest management program. The department may establish and operate organized and systematic programs for the management and suppression of vertebrate pests. Vertebrate pests ~~are defined as~~ are defined as jackrabbits, prairie dogs, ground squirrels, pocket gophers, rats, mice, skunks, raccoons, bats, snakes, voles, and depredatory and nuisance birds. ~~and the following depredatory~~ Depredatory and nuisance birds are defined as: blackbirds, cowbirds, starlings, house sparrows, and feral pigeons, when they are injurious to agriculture, other industries, and the public. For this purpose, the department may enter into written agreements with appropriate federal agencies, other state agencies, counties, associations, corporations, or individuals covering the methods and procedures to be followed in the management and suppression of these vertebrate pests, the extent of supervision to be exercised by the department, and the use and expenditure of funds appropriated, when this cooperation is necessary to promote the management and suppression of vertebrate pests. Management is the correct identification of a vertebrate pest; recognition of its biology and environmental needs; assessment of the pest's damage, injury, or nuisance to agriculture, industry, or the public prior to selecting and implementing any integrated or individual control methods to reduce, prevent, or suppress these damages, nuisances, or injuries; and evaluating the effects of these control methods. This section does not apply to nongame wildlife managed or protected subject to Title 87, chapter 5, part 1."

Section 2. Repealer. The following sections of the Montana Code Annotated are repealed:

- 80-7-1103. Purchase and sale of vertebrate pest management supplies.
- 80-7-1104. Vertebrate pest management advisory council.
- 80-7-1105. Rodenticide fund.
- 80-7-1107. Acceptance and expenditure of gifts, grants, and funds.

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,
HB 0082, originated in the House.

Speaker of the House

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2017.

Chief Clerk of the House

President of the Senate

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2017.

HOUSE BILL NO. 82
INTRODUCED BY J. BACHMEIER
BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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