

HOUSE BILL NO. 379

INTRODUCED BY T. MANZELLA, S. BERGLEE

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING POLICY PROTECTIONS FOR WORKING ANIMALS; ~~RESTRICTING LAWS, ORDINANCES, REGULATIONS, OR RULES THAT BAN THE USE OF WORKING ANIMALS OR WORKING ANIMAL ENTERPRISES IN COMMERCE OR SERVICE;~~ AND PROVIDING A DEFINITION."

~~WHEREAS, the right to use a working animal for the mutual benefit and welfare of the animal and those it serves is guaranteed.~~

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Working animal protection POLICY. ~~(1) A local government unit as defined in 2-11-103 may not enact a law, ordinance, regulation, or rule that terminates, bans, or effectively bans by creating undue financial hardship the job or use of a working animal or a working animal enterprise in commerce or service, including but not limited to the fields of entertainment, transportation, education, exhibition, ranching, or service.~~

~~———— (2) Current state and federal law that regulates animal care and public health and safety remains in effect~~

IT IS HEREBY DECLARED THAT USING A WORKING ANIMAL FOR THE MUTUAL BENEFIT AND WELFARE OF THE ANIMAL AND THOSE IT SERVES IS VITAL TO THE ECONOMY OF THE STATE, THE LIVELIHOODS OF THE STATE'S CITIZENS, AND THE PUBLIC'S INTEREST.

~~(3)(2) For the purposes of this section, "working animal" means an animal used to perform a specific duty or function in commerce or service, including but not limited to an animal in entertainment, transportation, education, exhibition, ranching, or service,~~ LEGAL HUNTING, AGRICULTURE, HUSBANDRY, TRANSPORTATION, OR RANCHING, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ENTERTAINMENT, EDUCATION, AND EXHIBITION.

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 81, and the provisions of Title 81 apply to [section 1].

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