

1 *Shaw* BILL NO. *281*
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Holmes* *Kimble* *Stewart*
 3 *Kelly*

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REQUIRE
 5 IDENTIFICATION OF TRAPS DESIGNED FOR THE CAPTURE OF ANIMALS;
 6 TO REQUIRE THAT TRAPS BE DESIGNED TO BE AS HUMANE AS
 7 POSSIBLE FOR THEIR PURPOSE; TO PROVIDE FOR SPECIFICATIONS
 8 FOR THE MODIFICATION OF CERTAIN TRAPS; AND TO PROVIDE
 9 PENALTIES."

10
 11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

12 Section 1. Identification of traps. All traps for the
 13 capture of wild animals shall be clearly marked to identify
 14 the owner and to specify his address. A tag shall be
 15 attached to each trap to indicate the date of its most
 16 recent check. The tag may be designed to change or to add a
 17 date at each checking, but it may not be predated in advance
 18 of the day of checking.

19 Section 2. Modification of steel-jaw and leg-hold
 20 traps. All traps used for the capture of wild animals shall
 21 be designed in such a way as to be as humane as possible
 22 within their purpose. Steel-jaw and leg-hold traps shall be
 23 wrapped with rubber or a similar substance so that the trap
 24 does not crush the bone of the animal or tear through the
 25 flesh. The department of fish and game or any agency

1 charged with regulating the trapping of wild animals shall
 2 promulgate and distribute specifications for the
 3 modification of steel-jaw and leg-hold traps and any other
 4 trap to conform with this act. The department shall also
 5 provide for wide distribution of information concerning live
 6 traps and instant-kill traps, and shall pursue actively a
 7 program to relieve all animals of unnecessary suffering in
 8 traps.

9 Section 3. Regular checking of traps required. It is
 10 unlawful for any trap of any description to be left
 11 unchecked for longer than forty-eight (48) hours.

12 Section 4. Penalty. A person convicted of violating
 13 this act shall be fined fifty dollars (\$50) for each day
 14 that he is in violation.

-End-

HB 281