House BILL NO. 657
2 INTRODUCED BY CHATISS TOWER FOR

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT RELATING TO PAYMENTS

MADE ON CERTAIN LANDS OWNED BY THE FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

IN LIEU OF PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS; AMENDING SECTION 26-133.

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

Section 1. Section 26-133, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to read as follows:

"26-133. Payments to counties for department-owned land — exceptions. The director shall, before October 15 of each year, send a voucher to the treasurer of each county in which the department owns any lands. The voucher shall describe the lands and state the number of acres in each parcel. The voucher shall authorize the drawing of a warrant to the county in a sum equal to the amount of taxes which would be payable on <a href="mailto:state.">state.</a> county. city. and <a href="mailto:school-district-essessment-assessments">school-district-essessment-assessments</a> of the property were it taxable to a private citizen. A county treasurer receiving a voucher shall execute it and return it to the director, who shall approve it and transmit it to the state auditor. The state auditor shall draw a warrant in the amount shown on the voucher, payable to the county and shall send the warrant to

the county treasurer. who shall distribute the proper amounts to the respective taxing authorities. The warrant is payable out of any funds to the credit of the state fish and game commission. No voucher or payment may be made to a county in which the department owns less than one hundred (100) acres. No voucher or payment may be made to a county for lands owned by the department for game bird farm or fish hatchery purposes or lands administered with money from the general fund.

-End-

## STATE OF MONTANA

REQUEST NO. 438-77

## FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received <u>February 10</u> , 19 77, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note
for House Bill 657 pursuant to Chapter 53, Laws of Montana, 1965 - Thirty-Ninth Legislative Assembly.
Background information used in developing this Fiscal Note is available from the Office of Budget and Program Planning, to members
of the Legislature upon request.

## DESCRIPTION

This bill relates to payments made on certain lands owned by the Fish and Game Commission in lieu of property tax payments.

## ASSUMPTIONS

This bill puts the existing practice of the Fish and Game Department into law. The Fish and Game pays every tax bill that it receives from each county. A sample of counties revealed that the levies mentioned in this bill were assessed to the Fish and Game. Therefore, this bill should have no fiscal impact.

PREPARED BY DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning