

HOUSE BILL 355

IN THE HOUSE

January 24, 1979

Introduced and referred to
Committee on Judiciary.

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House BILL NO. *355*
Gust Schmitt, Ramsey
Conroy *Dean*

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-1-814, MCA, TO REQUIRE A CLAIMANT TO FIRST PERMIT AN ALLEGED LIBEL TO BE CORRECTED BEFORE CLAIMING PUNITIVE DAMAGES."

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

Section 1. Section 27-1-814, MCA, is amended to read:
"27-1-814. Media management to be given opportunity to publish correction prior to action for libel or slander. ~~Before any civil action shall be commenced in order to claim punitive damages~~ on account of any libelous or defamatory publication in any newspaper, magazine, periodical, radio or television station, or cable television system, the libeled person shall first give those alleged to be responsible or liable for the publication a reasonable opportunity to correct the libelous or defamatory matter. Such opportunity shall be given by notice in writing specifying the article and the statements therein which are claimed to be false and defamatory and a statement of what are claimed to be the true facts. The notice may also state the sources, if any, from which the true facts may be ascertained with definiteness and certainty."

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HB 355
INTRODUCED BILL