

HOUSE BILL 355

IN THE HOUSE

January 24, 1979

Introduced and referred to
Committee on Judiciary.

1

2 INTRODUCED BY

3 *Conroy**House BILL NO. 355**Burt Shewitz, Ramona
Lynn*

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION
5 27-1-814, MCA, TO REQUIRE A CLAIMANT TO FIRST PERMIT AN
6 ALLEGED LIBEL TO BE CORRECTED BEFORE CLAIMING PUNITIVE
7 DAMAGES."

8

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

10 Section 1. Section 27-1-814, MCA, is amended to read:
11 "27-1-814. Media management to be given opportunity to
12 publish correction prior to action for libel or slander.
13 ~~Before any civil action shall be commenced in order to claim~~
14 ~~punitive damages~~ on account of any libelous or defamatory
15 publication in any newspaper, magazine, periodical, radio or
16 television station, or cable television system, the libeled
17 person shall first give those alleged to be responsible or
18 liable for the publication a reasonable opportunity to
19 correct the libelous or defamatory matter. Such opportunity
20 shall be given by notice in writing specifying the article
21 and the statements therein which are claimed to be false and
22 defamatory and a statement of what are claimed to be the
23 true facts. The notice may also state the sources, if any,
24 from which the true facts may be ascertained with
25 definiteness and certainty."

-end-

*HB 355
INTRODUCED BILL*