

HOUSE BILL 623

IN THE HOUSE

February 7, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Fish and Game.
February 20, 1979	Committee recommend bill, do not pass.
February 21, 1979	Report adopted.
February 22, 1979	On motion previous action reconsidered.
February 23, 1979	Second reading, do pass. Considered correctly engrossed. Third reading, passed.

IN THE SENATE

February 23, 1979	Referred to Committee on Fish and Game.
March 14, 1979	Committee recommend bill, not concurred.

IN THE HOUSE

March 15, 1979	Returned from Senate, not concurred.
March 20, 1979	On motion request of Senate granted for return of House Bill 623 for further consideration.

IN THE SENATE

March 21, 1979	Returned from House.
March 22, 1979	Second reading, indefinitely postponed, as amended.

IN THE HOUSE

March 23, 1979	Returned from Senate as amended, indefinitely postponed.
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INTRODUCED BY House BILL NO. 623
Trapper Education Wyruch

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A TRAPPER EDUCATION PROGRAM; TO REQUIRE EVIDENCE OF COMPLETION OF SUCH COURSE, A COMPARABLE COURSE, OR PRIOR POSSESSION OF A VALID TRAPPER'S LICENSE BEFORE ISSUANCE OF A CLASS C TRAPPER'S LICENSE; AMENDING SECTION 87-2-601, MCA."

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Trapper education program.

(1) The department shall establish a trapper education program to promote ethical, humane, and proper trapping methods and for that purpose may cooperate with licensed trappers, wildlife biologists, landowners, land managers, and other appropriate individuals or organizations.

(2) The trapper education program must include instruction in:

(a) proper trapping techniques to humanely capture targeted fur-bearing animals;

(b) the laws and rules governing the taking of fur-bearing animals by trapping and the underlying purposes for enactment or adoption;

(c) the proper care and handling of fur; and

(d) methods of promoting good landowner and trapper

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relations.

(3) The department may designate as an instructor any person found by it to be competent to give instruction in the trapper education program. A person so appointed shall give instruction according to the format developed by the department and shall issue a certificate of completion to each person who successfully completes the program.

Section 2. Section 87-2-601, MCA, is amended to read:

"87-2-601. Class C--trapper's license. (1) Any resident, as defined in 87-2-102, upon making application and paying the sum of \$10 to the department, and complying with subsection (2), shall be entitled to a trapper's license which shall authorize the holder thereof to trap fur-bearing animals and hunt bobcat within the state of Montana at such times and in such manner as may be lawful so to do under the laws of the state and the regulations of the department and at such places as may be designated in said license.

(2) An applicant for a trapper's license under this section must exhibit one of the following to the person authorized to issue such a license:

(a) a certificate of completion of the trapper education program administered by the department;

(b) evidence of successful completion of a trapper education program administered by any other state or

1 province comparable to this state's program; or
2 (c) evidence of lawful possession of a trapper's
3 license in any state or province."

4 Section 3. Codification. Section 1 is intended to be
5 codified as an integral part of Title 87, chapter 2, part 6,
6 and the provisions of Title 87, chapter 2, part 6, apply to
7 section 1.

-End-

STATE OF MONTANA

Request No. 308-79

FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received February 9, 1979, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for House Bill 623 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 OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

House Bill 623 is proposed legislation to establish a trapper education program; to require evidence of completion of such course, a comparable course, or prior possession of a valid trapper's license before issuance of a Class C trapper's license.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. Average number of general trappers licenses issued annually is approximately 3,100.
2. As many as 50% or 1,500 might attend a trapper education course annually during the first two years based on the State of Washington program.
3. A minimum of 100 instructors would require training and certification to assure availability of the program statewide.
4. This instructor training, curriculum development, program publicity, acquiring and distribution of supplies and materials, providing a permanent record system for instructors and students, and local classroom assistance statewide is estimated to require .5 FTE to initiate the program statewide and .25 FTE each year thereafter. The required FTE would be spread over existing personnel statewide.

FISCAL IMPACT:

	<u>FY 80</u>	<u>FY 81</u>
Additional cost of proposed legislation		
Personal services	\$ 7,500	\$ 3,500
Operating expenses	1,000	500
Equipment	4,000	1,500
	<u>\$12,500</u>	<u>\$ 5,500</u>

The additional cost must be funded from the Fish and Game Earmarked Revenue Account.

LONG-TERM IMPACT:

The program, once initiated, will cost about \$3,000 annually.

Richard D. Strong for
 BUDGET DIRECTOR
 Office of Budget and Program Planning
 Date: 2/16/79

1 House BILL NO. 623
 2 INTRODUCED BY Kropp, Jonathan Wyruch

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