

HOUSE BILL NO. 81
INTRODUCED BY ELLISON, RANEY

IN THE HOUSE

January 7, 1985	Introduced and referred to Committee on Natural Resources.
January 8, 1985	On motion by Chief Sponsor, Representative Raney added as sponsor.
January 21, 1985	Committee recommend bill do pass. Report adopted.
January 22, 1985	Bill printed and placed on members' desks.
January 24, 1985	Second reading, do pass. Considered correctly engrossed.
January 25, 1985	Third reading, passed. Transmitted to Senate.

IN THE SENATE

January 26, 1985	Introduced and referred to Committee on Natural Resources.
February 9, 1985	Committee recommend bill be concurrent in. Report adopted.
February 13, 1985	Second reading, concurred in.
February 15, 1985	Third reading, concurred in. Ayes, 46; Noes, 3. Returned to House.

IN THE HOUSE

February 16, 1985

Received from Senate.

Sent to enrolling.

Reported correctly enrolled.

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3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT DESIGNATING THE
5 DUCK-BILLED DINOSAUR MAIASAURA PEBLESORUM AS THE OFFICIAL
6 STATE FOSSIL."

7
8 WHEREAS, Montana is the home of one of the world's most
9 important dinosaur discoveries, specifically the duck-billed
10 dinosaur Maiasaura peeblesorum, which is found nowhere else
11 in the world; and

12 WHEREAS, the duck-billed dinosaur, when newly hatched,
13 was less than 14 inches long and weighed about 1 1/2 pounds
14 but grew to over 30 feet in length and weighed about 3 tons;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, dinosaur sites in Montana contain fossilized
17 eggs, embryonic bone, babies, juveniles, and adults of
18 several different types of dinosaurs; provide valuable
19 evidence that duck-billed dinosaurs nested in extensive
20 colonies and had nests 6 feet in diameter that contained as
21 many as 20 eggs; and demonstrate for the first time parental
22 care of dinosaur young; and

23 WHEREAS, the Montana discoveries have tremendous
24 scientific value and will continue to receive widespread
25 publicity in national and international journals, as well as

1 in popular literature and television and radio programs; and
2 WHEREAS, naming a dinosaur as the state fossil will
3 increase awareness that Montana is one of the best places in
4 the world for the occurrence of important dinosaur
5 discoveries and will have real economic value in terms of
6 tourist promotion; and

7 WHEREAS, the name Maiasaura peeblesorum means "good
8 mother lizard" (Maiasaura) and honors the Peebles family
9 (peeblesorum), a Montana ranch family from the Choteau area
10 where the discoveries were made.

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

13 Section 1. State fossil. The duck-billed dinosaur
14 Maiasaura peeblesorum is the official Montana state fossil.

-End-



-2- INTRODUCED BILL
 HB 81

APPROVED BY COMM. ON
NATURAL RESOURCES

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