HOUSE BILL NO. 271

1/19 Introduced 2/15 Hearing Died in Committee 1 3

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO EXEMPT VOLUNTEER HOSPICE PROGRAMS FROM LICENSING; AMENDING SECTION 50-5-210, 5 б

MCA: AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN

APPLICABILITY DATE." 7

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

Section 1. Section 50-5-210, MCA, is amended to read: *50-5-210. Department to make rules -- standards for skilled care. (1) The department shall by rule establish standards for the licensure of a hospice. These standards must consider the terminally ill patient and his family as a unit and require service delivery through a medically directed interdisciplinary team of professionals and volunteers acting under a defined hospice administration.

- (2) A Except as provided in subsection (3), a hospice must meet the standards of care defined by law for any skilled care it provides that normally would be provided by a licensed facility such as a hospital, skilled nursing facility, or home health agency.
- (3) Hospice programs staffed by volunteers are exempt from the requirements of this part."
- NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective 25

date

- 1 applicability. This act is effective on passage and approval
- and applies to all existing hospice programs and to any
- hospice programs initiated after the effective date of this
- act.

-End-