

SENATE BILL NO. 178

2 INTRODUCED BY

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THAT ELECTIONS FOR COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL
5 OFFICES, EXCEPT ELECTIONS FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, BE CONDUCTED ON A NONPARTISAN
6 BASIS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 7-3-111, 7-3-112, 7-3-113, 7-3-114, 7-3-219, 7-3-314, 7-3-413, AND
7 7-3-704, MCA."

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Elections to be nonpartisan. Elections for all municipal offices provided

12 for under this part must be conducted on a nonpartisan basis.

14 **Section 2.** Section 7-3-111, MCA, is amended to read:

15 "7-3-111. **Statutory basis for elected county official government.** (1) For the purpose of
16 determining the statutory basis of existing units of local government ~~after May 2, 1977, each unit~~ of local
17 government organized under the general statutes authorizing the elected county official form of
18 government, ~~shall be governed by~~ the following sections govern:

- (a) 7-3-401;
- (b) 7-3-402;
- (c) 7-3-412(3);
- (d) 7-3-413(1);
- (e) 7-3-414(1);
- (f) 7-3-415(2);
- (g) 7-3-416(2);
- (h) 7-3-417(2);
- (i) 7-3-418;
- (j) 7-3-432(1);
- (k) 7-3-433(1);
- (l) 7-3-434(1);



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- 1 (m) 7-3-435(1);
- 2 (n) 7-3-436(1);
- 3 (o) 7-3-437(1);
- 4 (p) 7-3-438(1);
- 5 (q) 7-3-439(1);
- 6 (r) 7-3-440(1);
- 7 (s) 7-3-441(1);
- 8 (t) 7-3-442(1) if the county has elected an auditor;
- 9 (u) 7-3-442(6) if the county has not elected an auditor.
- 10 (2) This form has terms of 4 years for all elected officials, except commissioners, who are elected
- 11 to 6-year terms. The commission consists of three members."

13 **Section 3.** Section 7-3-112, MCA, is amended to read:

"7-3-112. **Statutory basis for county manager government.** (1) For the purpose of determining the statutory basis of ~~existing units of local government after May 2, 1977~~, each unit of local government organized under the general statutes authorizing the county manager form of government, ~~shall be governed~~ by the following sections ~~govern~~:

18 (a) 7-3-301;
19 (b) 7-3-303;
20 (c) 7-3-304;
21 (d) 7-3-305;
22 (e) 7-3-312(2);
23 (f) 7-3-313(1) or (2);
24 (g) 7-3-314(2);
25 (h) 7-3-315(1);
26 (i) 7-3-316(2);
27 (j) 7-3-317(2);
28 (k) 7-3-318.

29 (2) Commissioners are elected to 6-year terms. The size of the commission shall must be
30 established by ordinance, but it may not exceed five members."

