

# A history of the County Weed Act

Environmental Quality Council

May 12, 2025



# 1939: Noxious weed extermination districts



## SENATE BILL NO. 201

INTRODUCED BY BURKE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO DEFINE NOXIOUS WEEDS AND NOXIOUS WEED SEED AND DECLARING THEM A NUISANCE; TO AUTHORIZE THE FORMATION AND CREATION OF NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL AND NOXIOUS WEED SEED EXTERMINATION DISTRICTS, PROVIDING FOR THE MANAGEMENT THEREOF, THE CONTROL OF WORK THEREIN, THE DETERMINATION OF AND LEVYING OF ASSESSMENTS THEREIN; AUTHORIZING A QUARANTINE AGAINST INTRODUCTION OF NOXIOUS WEEDS AND WEED SEED INTO THE STATE OF MONTANA AND INTO ANY COUNTY THEREOF; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; AUTHORIZING THE COOPERATION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WITH ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AID PROGRAM IN FURTHERING THE OPERATION OF THIS ACT; AND REPEALING SECTIONS 4506, 4507, 4508, 4509, 4510, 4511, 4512, 4513, 4513.1 and 4513.2 OF THE REVISED CODES OF MONTANA, 1935, AS AMENDED BY CHAPTER 41 OF THE SESSION LAWS OF 1937, AND ALL ACTS AND PARTS OF ACTS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH."



# County Weed Act

- Organization of districts
- Compliance process
- Funding

# County Weed Act

HB265 (1969): required every county to organize a weed district

HB716 (1985): board powers, voluntary compliance, cooperative agreements

SB326 (2001): state funding, cost-share, civil penalty, property disclosure, emergencies, FWP weed control

HB166 (2011): co. fund only for weed control; no use of inmates

SB301 (2013) compliance rewrite

