

1 SENATE BILL NO. 183

2 INTRODUCED BY G. HERTZ, J. SECKINGER, E. ALBUS

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING AN OUTFITTER ENDORSEMENT FOR GUIDE
5 LICENSURE; AMENDING SECTION 37-47-303, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE
6 DATE."

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8 WHEREAS, professional relationships between guides and endorsing outfitters has been an industry
9 tradition and licensure standard for generations; and

10 WHEREAS, existing statute allows for the licensure of guides without requiring an outfitter
11 endorsement, thus reducing the industry's ability to regulate its own professional standards; and

12 WHEREAS, public health, safety, and welfare is best served by ensuring that guides meet the
13 qualifications and industry standards of Montana's outfitters in addition to those of the Board of Outfitters.

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

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17 **Section 1.** Section 37-47-303, MCA, is amended to read:

18 **"37-47-303. Guide's qualifications.** (1) An applicant for a guide's license must:

19 (4)(A) be 18 years of age or older and be physically capable and mentally competent to perform the
20 duties of a guide;

21 (2)(B) be endorsed and recommended by an outfitter with a valid license, UNLESS OTHERWISE
22 QUALIFIED UNDER GUIDE STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD PURSUANT TO 37-47-201(4) unless otherwise
23 qualified under guide standards established by the board pursuant to 37-47-201(4); and

24 (3)(C) have been issued a valid conservation license.

25 (2) AN APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF A GUIDE LICENSE MUST BE SIGNED BY AN OUTFITTER EMPLOYING A
26 GUIDE. IF THE APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL IS NOT SIGNED AS REQUIRED BY THIS SUBSECTION, THE APPLICATION MUST BE
27 DENIED."

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