

Montana House Conservation Hotlist Week 17: April 26, 2021

Please Oppose:

HB 188 – Generally revise electric vehicle laws and fees, Rep. Denley Loge (R-Saint Regis), Returned to House, Oppose. This bill would add \$250 onto existing registration fees for vehicles that are electric (and \$400 for trucks using electric batteries). This means that owners of electric vehicles that are 4 years old or newer would pay \$467 every year to register, \$337 every year for electric vehicles between 5-10 years, and \$278 every year for electric vehicles older than 11 years. Those amounts are more than every other state in the US (with Georgia being the closest at \$200). *Contact Conor Ploeger, MEIC, at 443-2520 or cploeger@meic.org*

HB 693 - Generally revise environmental laws, Rep. Bill Mercer (R-Billings), Returned to House, Oppose. This bill has been amended to include a provision that directs the Attorney General to expend up to \$250,000 in state funds to investigate environmental groups. This definition would include any environmental group that provides testimony on legislation, including garden groups and conservation districts. *Contact Derf Johnson, MEIC, at 406-581-4634 or djohnson@meic.org*

SB 231 - Revise exempt well laws related to family transfer parcels, Sen. Mark Blasdel (R-Kalispell), Third Reading, Oppose. As currently written, this bill would continue and expand the family transfer exemption in the subdivision and platting act, a provision that has been heavily abused to avoid subdivision review and resulted in poor planning across Montana. *Contact Derf Johnson, MEIC, at 406-581-4634 or djohnson@meic.org*

The Weekly Hotlist is published as an educational service to lawmakers and citizens by the Conservation Working Group, composed of the organizations listed below. Contact Jake Brown, Montana Conservation Voters at 406-855-7821 or Whitner Chase, Montana Conservation Voters at 407-235-8203

** Clark Fork Coalition * Environment Montana * Montana Audubon * Montana Conservation Voters * Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC) * Montana Public Interest Research Group (MontPIRG) * Montana Wilderness Association * Montana Wildlife Federation * Northern Plains Resource Council * Montana Smart Growth Coalition **