



AN ACT REVISING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TENANT AND LANDLORD RELATIONSHIP WITH RESPECT TO RESIDENTIAL AND MOBILE HOME LOT RENTALS; REVISING THE EFFECTS OF FAILING TO SIGN A RENTAL AGREEMENT; AMENDING SECTIONS 70-24-204 AND 70-33-203, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY DATE.

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

**Section 1.** Section 70-24-204, MCA, is amended to read:

**"70-24-204. Effect of unsigned or undelivered rental agreement.** (1) If the landlord does not sign and deliver a written rental agreement that has already been signed by the tenant and delivered to the landlord by the tenant, acceptance of rent ~~without reservation~~ without reservation by the landlord gives the rental agreement the same effect as if it had been signed and delivered by the landlord to the tenant.

(2) If the tenant does not sign and deliver to the landlord a written rental agreement that has already been signed by the landlord and delivered to the tenant by the landlord, acceptance of possession of the premises and payment of rent ~~without reservation~~ without reservation by the tenant gives the rental agreement the same effect as if it had been signed and delivered by the tenant to the landlord.

(3) If a rental agreement given effect by the operation of this section provides for a term longer than 1 year, it is effective for only 1 year."

**Section 2.** Section 70-33-203, MCA, is amended to read:

**"70-33-203. Effect of unsigned or undelivered rental agreement.** (1) If the landlord does not sign and deliver a written rental agreement that has already been signed by the tenant and delivered to the landlord by the tenant, acceptance of rent ~~without reservation~~ without reservation by the landlord gives the rental agreement the same effect as if it had been signed and delivered by the landlord to the tenant.

(2) If the tenant does not sign and deliver to the landlord a written rental agreement that has already been signed by the landlord and delivered to the tenant by the landlord, acceptance of possession of the

premises and payment of rent ~~without reservation~~ without reservation by the tenant gives the rental agreement the same effect as if it had been signed and delivered by the tenant to the landlord.

(3) If a rental agreement given effect by the operation of this section provides for a term longer than 1 year, it is effective for only 1 year."

**Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

**Section 4. Applicability.** [This act] applies to rental agreements entered into, extended, or renewed on or after [the effective date of this act].

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,  
HB 0349, originated in the House.

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Speaker of the House

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

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Chief Clerk of the House

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President of the Senate

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

HOUSE BILL NO. 349  
INTRODUCED BY P. WEBB

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