1   HOUSE BILL NO. 677

2   INTRODUCED BY T. FRANCE

3

4   A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING BIRD HUNTING DOG LAWS RELATED TO

5   PROFESSIONAL TRAINERS; DEFINING "PROFESSIONAL TRAINER"; PROHIBITING TRAINING BY

6   PROFESSIONAL TRAINERS WITHIN CERTAIN DATES ON PUBLIC LANDS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS

7   87-3-601 AND 87-3-602, MCA."

8

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

10

11   **Section 1.** Section 87-3-601, MCA, is amended to read:

12   "**87-3-601.   Definitions.** As used in this part, the following definitions apply:

13   (1)   "Bird hunting dog" means a dog trained or being trained to point, flush, or retrieve game birds.

14   (2)   "Field trial" means an organized event affiliated with a national organization to examine,

15   evaluate, or test the ability of bird hunting dogs to point, flush, or retrieve game birds.

16   (3)   "Game bird" means a bird defined as an upland game bird or migratory game bird in 87-2-101.

17   (4)   "Professional trainer" means any person who receives pay or other compensation from another

18   party to train any breed of dog for the purpose of hunting game birds."

19

20   **Section 2.** Section 87-3-602, MCA, is amended to read:

21   "**87-3-602.   Training bird hunting dogs.** (1) Training of bird hunting dogs is allowed.

22   (2)   A person training bird hunting dogs with a method that kills game birds shall tag or mark the

23   game bird prior to release. Game birds must be obtained from a game bird farm licensed under 87-4-903 or

24   from a source of game birds approved by the department.

25   (3)   A person who takes an untagged or unmarked game bird while training a bird hunting dog

26   outside of the established season for that species or who is not licensed to take that species shall immediately

27   report the taking to a representative of the department.

28   (4)   Training of a bird hunting dog by a professional trainer specific to that person's business

1   activities is prohibited on state and federal lands from April 1 to August 31."

2

3   - END -