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SENATE BILL 762

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY

Richard M. Romero

AN ACT

RELATING TO HUNTING; CREATING A "PUBLIC LAND HUNTER ADVOCATE" POSITION; PROVIDING DUTIES; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of Chapter 17 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

" [NEW MATERIAL] PUBLIC LAND HUNTER ADVOCATE--CREATED. --

The position of "public land hunter advocate" is created in the governor's office. "

Section 2. A new section of Chapter 17 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

" [NEW MATERIAL] APPOINTMENT-- TERM - RESTRICTION OF QUALIFICATIONS-- VACANCY-- COMPENSATION. --

A. The public land hunter advocate shall be appointed by the governor for a term of two years and shall

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1 serve at the pleasure of the governor. A term shall begin on
2 July 1.

3 B. The public land hunter advocate shall have:

4 (1) no ties to the outfitting and guide
5 industry;

6 (2) no ties to the ranching, cattle or
7 agriculture industries;

8 (3) never received a land owner hunting
9 permit; and

10 (4) never served as a broker or profited in
11 any manner from the sale of a land owner hunting permit.

12 C. In the event of a vacancy in the position of
13 public land hunter advocate, the governor shall appoint a
14 person to the vacant position in the same manner as the
15 previous appointment was made.

16 D. The salary of the public land hunter advocate
17 shall be set by the state game commission and shall be paid
18 from the game protection fund."

19 Section 3. A new section of Chapter 17 NMSA 1978 is
20 enacted to read:

21 "[NEW MATERIAL] PUBLIC LAND HUNTER ADVOCATE-- DUTIES. --

22 The public land hunter advocate shall:

23 A. serve as an advocate for public land hunters;

24 B. attend all state game commission meetings in
25 order to represent the interests of public land hunters;

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1 C. attend public meetings throughout the state in
2 order to acquire information relating to public land issues
3 and game;

4 D. develop a method to disseminate public land and
5 game information to public land hunters; and

6 E. act as a watch dog in the area of landowner
7 permit allocations. "

8 Section 4. APPROPRIATION. -- Fifty thousand dollars
9 (\$50,000) is appropriated from the game protection fund to the
10 state game commission for expenditure in fiscal year 2002 for
11 the costs associated with the newly created position of public
12 land hunter advocate. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance
13 remaining at the end of fiscal year 2002 shall revert to the
14 game protection fund.

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