

H.589

An act relating to hunting, fishing, and trapping

The Senate proposes to the House to amend the bill as follows:

First: In Sec. 5, 10 V.S.A. § 4084(a) by striking out subdivision (1) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (1) to read as follows:

(1) establish open seasons; however, rules regarding taking of deer adopted under this subdivision shall, unless there is a scientific reason not to do so, make provision for: a regular rifle hunting season ~~pursuant to section 4741 of this title and for~~ of no fewer than 16 consecutive days; an archery season; and a muzzle loader season ~~unless there is a scientific reason not to do so~~;

Second: In Sec. 8, 10 V.S.A. § 4705, by striking out subsection (c) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following to read:

(c) A person while on or within 25 feet of the traveled portion of a public highway, except a public highway designated Class 4 on a town highway map, shall not take or attempt to take any wild animal by shooting a firearm, a muzzle loader, a bow and arrow, or a crossbow. A person while on or within the traveled portion of public highway designated Class 4 on a town highway map shall not take or attempt to take any wild animal by shooting a firearm, a muzzle loader, a bow and arrow, or a crossbow. A person shall not shoot a firearm, muzzle loader, a bow and arrow, or a crossbow over or across the

traveled portion of a public highway, except for a person shooting over or across the traveled portion of a public highway from a sport shooting range, as that term is defined in section 5227 of this title, provided that:

- (1) the sport shooting range was established before January 1, 2014; and
- (2) the operators of the sport shooting range post signage warning users of the public highway of the potential danger from the sport shooting range.

And in subsection (f), after “means roads” and before “shown on” by inserting , including Class 4 roads,

Third: By striking out Sec. 15 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new section to be Sec. 15 to read as follows:

\* \* \* Training Hunting Dogs; Raccoon Season \* \* \*

Sec. 15. 10 V.S.A. § 5001 is amended to read:

§ 5001. HUNTING DOGS; FIELD TRAINING

(a) While accompanying the dog, a person may train a hunting dog to hunt and pursue:

(1) ~~Bear~~ bear during the period from June 1 to September 15 and then only from sunrise to sunset;

(2) ~~Rabbits~~ rabbits and game birds during the period from June 1 to the last Saturday in September and then only from sunrise to sunset;

(3) ~~Raccoon~~ raccoon during the period from June 1 ~~to the last Saturday in September at any time of the day or night~~ through any time of day or night on the day before the opening day of raccoon hunting season; and

(4) ~~Bobcat~~ bobcat and fox during the period June 1 to March 15, except during regular deer season as prescribed in section 4741 of this title.

\* \* \*

Fourth: By inserting a new section to be Sec. 15a to read as follows:

Sec. 15a. 1 V.S.A. § 509 is amended to read:

§ 509. STATE ~~FOSSIL~~ FOSSILS

(a) The state marine fossil shall be the white whale fossilized skeleton at the University of Vermont's Perkins Geology Museum.

(b) The state terrestrial fossil shall be the Mount Holly mammoth tooth and tusk at the Mount Holly Community Historical Museum.

Fifth: By striking out Sec. 3a (JFO report on hunting licenses for disabled veterans) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 3a. [Deleted.]

Sixth: By striking out Sec. 10 (conservation registration plates) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 10. [Deleted.]

Seventh: By adding a new section to be numbered Sec. 16 to read as follows:

Sec. 16. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Secs. 1–2 (landowner exception; captive hunt; definitions), 3 (license for disabled veteran), 8 (shooting from or across highway), and 15 (training hunting dogs; raccoon season shall take effect on passage.

(b) Secs. 4 (migrating game bird harvest numbers), 11–13 (cultural and ceremonial use of bird feathers), 14 (State Fly-Fishing Fly), and 15a (State Fossils) shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

(c) Secs. 5–7 (deer season rules) shall take effect on January 1, 2015.

(d) Sec. 9 (conservation plates; proceeds) shall take effect 90 days after the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles issues three new conservation registration plates under 23 V.S.A. § 304b for use by the public.