

1 H.766

2 Introduced by Representative Deen of Westminster

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Conservation and development; Fish and Wildlife Department;

6 wardens

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to prohibit a  
8 person from harassing or threatening a fish and wildlife warden in retaliation  
9 for exercising his or her official duties.

10 An act relating to harassment of a fish and wildlife warden

11 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

12 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 4200 is added to read:

13 § 4200. HARASSMENT OF A FISH AND WILDLIFE WARDEN

14 (a) As used in this section:

15 (1) "Harass" means to engage in conduct that serves no legitimate  
16 purpose and would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her or a family  
17 member's safety or would cause a reasonable person a substantial amount of  
18 emotional stress.

19 (2) "Threaten" means the use of words or conduct to place another  
20 person in fear of bodily injury.

1       (b) A person shall not intentionally harass or threaten a fish and wildlife  
2       warden in retaliation for the warden's exercise of his or her official duties.

3       (c) A person who violates this section shall be imprisoned not more than  
4       five years or fined not more than \$10,000.00, or both.

5       (d) It shall not be a defense to a charge under this section that the person  
6       did not intend or have the ability to carry out the threat.

7       Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

8       This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.