

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife to which was
3 referred House Bill No. 411 entitled “An act relating to the retrieval and
4 disposal of wild animals” respectfully reports that it has considered the same
5 and recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting
6 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. chapter 113, subchapter 7 is added to read:

8 Subchapter 7. Retrieval, Disposal, and Use of Covered Wild Animals

9 § 4921. DEFINITION

10 As used in this subchapter, “covered wild animal” means an animal that is a
11 big game animal, game quadruped, game bird, fur-bearing animal, or crow.

12 § 4922. RETRIEVAL AND DISPOSAL OF COVERED WILD ANIMALS

13 A person shall not intentionally or knowingly kill a covered wild animal
14 and intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly fail to make a reasonable effort to
15 retrieve the covered wild animal and use or dispose of the covered wild animal
16 as provided under this subchapter.

17 § 4923. WASTE OF COVERED WILD ANIMAL

18 (a) A person shall not intentionally take a covered wild animal and
19 intentionally or knowingly leave the wounded or dead covered wild animal.

20 (b) A person who retrieves a lawfully taken covered wild animal, or a
21 person to whom the lawfully taken covered wild animal is transferred, shall

1 retain the animal in his or her possession until processed; used as food; used
2 for its fur, hide, or feathers; used for taxidermy; or lawfully disposed.

3 § 4924. EXCEPTIONS

4 The requirements of sections 4922 and 4923 of this title shall not apply:

5 (1) when the failure to retrieve and dispose, the failure to salvage, or the
6 failure to retain the covered wild animal is beyond the control of the person
7 due to:

8 (A) theft of the covered wild animal by another person;

9 (B) unanticipated weather conditions or other act of God that
10 prevents salvage, retrieval, or retention;

11 (C) unavoidable loss in the field to a wild animal; or

12 (D) lack of legal access to property where a wounded or dead
13 covered wild animal is located, including when signage on the property would
14 lead a reasonable person to believe that hunting is prohibited on the land;

15 (2) in order to defend a person or property, including defense of
16 property authorized under this part or rules adopted under this part;

17 (3) when the covered wild animal is sick or diseased;

18 (4) to a State, federal, or municipal law enforcement officer or employee
19 when the law enforcement officer or employee is acting within the course of
20 his or her employment; or

1 (5) when following generally accepted hunting, trapping, or fishing
2 practices for retrieval of a covered wild animal, including requirements or
3 practices under this part or rules adopted under this part.

4 § 4925. DISPOSAL

5 A person shall not place, leave, dump, or abandon the carcass or parts of a
6 covered wild animal:

7 (1) along or upon a public right-of-way or highway;

8 (2) upon a private property posted in accordance with section 4710 or
9 5201 of this title without permission of the owner or the owner’s agent; or

10 (3) where prohibited by State or municipal law.

11 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

12 This act shall take effect on passage.

13 and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act
14 relating to the retrieval and disposal of covered wild animals”

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17 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE