

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Natural Resources and Energy to which was referred
3 Senate Bill No. 281 entitled “An act relating to hunting coyote with dogs”
4 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the
5 bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in
6 lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 5008 is added to read:

8 § 5008. HUNTING COYOTE WITH AID OF DOGS; PROHIBITION;

9 EXCEPTION

10 (a) No person shall pursue coyote with the aid of dogs, either for the
11 training of dogs or for the taking of coyote, except as provided for under
12 subsections (b) and (c) of this section.

13 (b) A person may pursue coyote with the aid of dogs on land that the
14 person owns or controls in order to defend a person or property.

15 (c) A person may pursue coyote with the aid of dogs on land that the
16 person does not own or control in order to defend a person or property,
17 provided that:

18 (1) the person who controls the dogs obtains from the person who owns
19 or controls the land written permission to take the coyote on the land with the
20 aid of dogs;

1 Sec. 3. DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE RULEMAKING;

2 HUNTING COYOTE WITH AID OF DOGS

3 On or before July 1, 2023, the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife shall
4 adopt by rule requirements for the pursuit of coyote with the aid of dogs for the
5 training of dogs or for the taking of coyote. The rule shall:

6 (1) require a permit for the pursuit of coyote with the aid dogs for
7 training of dogs;

8 (2) require a permit for the pursuit of coyote with the aid of dogs for the
9 taking of the coyote;

10 (3) establish a season for the hunting of coyote with the aid of dogs;

11 (4) require an applicant for a permit under the rules hold a valid resident
12 hunting license;

13 (5) require the dogs used to pursue the coyote to be in the control of the
14 person issued the permit;

15 (6) exclude use of radio collars, telemetry collars, GPS collars, or
16 similar collars that locate or track dogs as a method of complying with the
17 control requirements of subdivision (5) of this section;

18 (7) prohibit the use of bait to take coyote;

19 (8) provide that the number of dogs allowed to be used for the pursuit of
20 coyote not exceed four dogs;

1 (9) prohibit the substitution of any new dog for another dog during a
2 hunt for coyote;

3 (10) specify the legal method of take for coyote pursued with the aid of
4 dogs; and

5 (11) require the tagging and reporting of every coyote taken with the aid
6 of dogs.

7 Sec. 4. IMPLEMENTATION; NOTICE OF PROHIBITION

8 (a) The Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife shall not enforce the
9 requirements of 10 V.S.A. § 5008 until September 1, 2022.

10 (b) Prior to September 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife
11 shall provide public notice of the requirements of 10 V.S.A. § 5008. The
12 public notice shall include posting notice on kiosks and signs on Department of
13 Fish and Wildlife lands.

14 Sec. 5. REPEAL

15 10 V.S.A. § 5008 and 10 V.S.A. § 4502(b)(3)(DD) shall be repealed upon
16 the effective date of adoption of the rules required under Sec. 3 of this act.

17 Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

18 This act shall take effect on passage.

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3 (Committee vote: _____)

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Senator _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE