

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Natural Resources and Energy to which was referred
3 House Bill No. 231 entitled “An act relating to technical corrections for fish
4 and wildlife statutes” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended by
6 striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the
7 following:

8 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 4001 is amended to read:

9 § 4001. DEFINITIONS

10 Words and phrases used in this part, unless otherwise provided, shall be
11 construed to mean as follows:

12 * * *

13 (6) ~~Pickereel: the great northern pike, chain pickerel, or muskellunge.~~

14 [Repealed.]

15 (7) ~~Pike perch: walleyed or yellow pike.~~ [Repealed.]

16 * * *

17 Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. § 4905 is amended to read:

18 § 4905. BIRDS’ NESTS AND EGGS; DESTROYING OR ROBBING

19 A person shall not take or ~~wilfully~~ willfully destroy the nests or eggs of
20 wild birds, other than rock pigeons, the English sparrow, starling, or purple
21 grackle house sparrows, or European starlings, except when necessary to

1 protect buildings and the nests to be removed contain no eggs or chicks and are
2 no longer being used by birds for feeding, or when taken as provided in section
3 4152 of this title.

4 Sec. 3. 10 V.S.A. § 4502 is amended to read:

5 § 4502. UNIFORM POINT SYSTEM; REVOCATION OF LICENSE

6 (a) A uniform point system that assigns points to those convicted of a
7 violation of a provision of this part is established. The conviction report from
8 the court shall be prima facie evidence of the points assessed. In addition to
9 other penalties assessed for violation of fish and wildlife statutes, the
10 Commissioner shall suspend licenses issued under this part that are held by a
11 person who has accumulated 10 or more points in accordance with the
12 provisions of subsection (c) of this section.

13 (b) A person violating provisions of this part shall receive points for
14 convictions in accordance with the following schedule (all sections are in this
15 title of the Vermont Statutes Annotated):

16 (1) Except for biological collection violations determined to be nonpoint
17 violations under the rules of the Board, five points shall be assessed for any
18 violation of statutes or rules adopted under this part except those listed in
19 subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection.

20 (2) Ten points shall be assessed for:

21 * * *

(I) ~~§ 4706. Snaring animals~~ [Repealed.]

* * *

(Y) ~~Appendix § 2; Appendix § 33, section 14.3.~~ Reporting of big
game

* * *

(II) ~~Appendix § 37, as it applies to annual deer limits~~ section 10.
Novice season

(JJ) § 4742a. Youth deer hunting weekend. The points shall be
assessed solely against the adult who is accompanying the youth hunter.

(KK) § 4908. Youth turkey hunting weekend. The points assessed
against the adult accompanying the youth hunter.

(LL) § 4256. Mentored hunting license. The points shall be assessed
against the licensed adult who is accompanying the individual holding the
mentored hunting license.

(MM) § 4827a. Feeding a black bear

(NN) § 4826. Taking deer doing damage

(OO) § 22a. Taking turkey doing damage

(PP) § 35. Taking moose doing damage

(QQ) ~~Appendix § 22, section 6.7; Appendix § 33, section 13.1(g);~~
~~Appendix § 37, section 7.7. Possession or transport of a cocked crossbow in or~~

1 ~~on a motor vehicle, motorboat, airplane, snowmobile, or other motor propelled~~
2 ~~vehicle~~ [Repealed.]

3 (RR) ~~Appendix § 7, section 6.3(b). Hunting bear with any dog not~~
4 ~~listed on the permit~~ [Repealed.]

5 * * *

6 (3) Twenty points shall be assessed for:

7 (A) ~~§ 4192. General powers and duties; failure to obey warden~~
8 [Repealed.]

9 * * *

10 (I) § 4745. Taking ~~deer~~ big game out of season prohibited

11 * * *

12 (O) Appendix § 7, sections 4.2, ~~5.1, 5.2,~~ 5.3, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3(b), 6.3(d),
13 6.3(e), 6.4, 6.5(e), 6.5(d), 7.1, and 7.2, 7.3, and 7.4. Bear, unauthorized taking

14 (P) Appendix § 22. Turkey season, excluding: requirements for
15 youth turkey hunting season; ~~section 6.2,~~ and size of shot used or possessed;
16 ~~and section 6.7, transport of cocked crossbow~~

17 * * *

18 (U) Appendix § 37. Deer management rule, excluding requirements
19 for youth deer hunting weekend; requirements for novice season; limitations
20 on feeding of deer; ~~section 7.7, transport of cocked crossbow;~~ reporting big
21 game; and section 11.0, ban of urine and other natural lures

* * *

(W) ~~§ 4711. Crossbow hunting~~ [Repealed.]

(X) ~~Appendix § 4. Hunting with a crossbow without a permit or
license~~ [Repealed.]

* * *

(Z) ~~Appendix § 44, section 4.6.~~ Use of tooth jawed traps

(AA) ~~Appendix § 44, section 4.11.~~ Taking furbearers with poison

(BB) ~~Appendix § 44, section 4.12.~~ Taking furbearers from a den

(CC) § 4716. Holding or conducting a coyote-hunting competition

(DD) § 4706. Snaring animals

* * *

Sec. 4. 10 V.S.A. § 4705 is amended to read:

§ 4705. SHOOTING FROM MOTOR VEHICLES OR AIRCRAFT;

SHOOTING FROM OR ACROSS HIGHWAY; PERMIT

(a) A person shall not take or attempt to take a wild animal by shooting
from a motor vehicle, motorboat, airplane, snowmobile, or other motor-
propelled craft or any vehicle drawn by a motor-propelled vehicle except as
permitted under subsection (e) of this section.

(b)(1) A person shall not carry or possess while in or on a vehicle propelled
by mechanical power or drawn by a vehicle propelled by mechanical power
within the right-of-way of a public highway any of the following:

1 (A) a rifle, air rifle, arrow rifle, pre-charged pneumatic rifle, or
2 shotgun containing a loaded cartridge or shell, or other projectile in the
3 chamber, mechanism, or in a magazine, or clip within a rifle or shotgun.

4 (B) a muzzle-loading rifle or muzzle-loading shotgun that has been
5 charged with powder and projectile and the ignition system of which has been
6 enabled by having an affixed or attached percussion cap, primer, battery, or
7 priming powder, except as permitted under subsections (d) and (e) of this
8 section; and

9 (C) unless it is uncocked, a crossbow in or on a motor vehicle,
10 motorboat, airplane, snowmobile, or other motor-propelled craft or any vehicle
11 drawn by a motor-propelled vehicle except as permitted under subsection
12 4705(e).

13 (2) A person who possesses a rifle, crossbow, or shotgun, including a
14 muzzle-loading rifle or muzzle-loading shotgun, in or on a vehicle propelled
15 by mechanical power, or drawn by a vehicle propelled by mechanical power
16 within a right-of-way of a public highway shall upon demand of an
17 enforcement officer exhibit the firearm for examination to determine
18 compliance with this section.

19 (3) As used in this subsection:

20 (A) “air rifle” means a .22 caliber device that fires a bullet solely by
21 the use of unignited compressed gas as the propellant;

(C) “pre-charged pneumatic rifle” means an air rifle or arrow rifle for which the propellant is supplied or introduced by means of a source that is physically separate from the air gun or arrow gun.

* * *

(b) Penalty or fine; \$300.00 or \$1,000.00 maximum. A person who violates a requirement under 10 V.S.A. § 1454 shall be subject to enforcement under 10 V.S.A. § 8007 or 8008 or a fine under this chapter, provided that the person shall be assessed a penalty or fine of not more than \$1,000.00 for each violation. A person who violates a rule adopted under 10 V.S.A. § 1424 shall be subject to enforcement under 10 V.S.A. chapter 201 or a fine under this chapter, provided that the person shall be assessed a penalty of not more than \$300.00 for each violation. A person who violates any of the following sections of this title shall be subject to a penalty of not more than \$300.00 for each violation:

* * *

§ 1102. JUDICIAL BUREAU; JURISDICTION

1 (a) The Judicial Bureau is created within the Judicial Branch under the
2 supervision of the Supreme Court.

3 (b) The Judicial Bureau shall have jurisdiction of the following matters:

4 * * *

5 (19) Violations of rules adopted under 10 V.S.A. § 1424, relating to the
6 use of public waters.

7 Sec. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE

8 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

9
10
11
12
13
14
15 (Committee vote: _____)

16 _____

17 Senator _____

18 FOR THE COMMITTEE