

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Natural Resources and Energy to which was referred
3 House Bill No. 928 entitled “An act relating to technical corrections to fish and
4 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 as
6 follows:

7 First: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 4502, in subsection (b), in subdivision (2), by
8 striking out subdivision (SS) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new
9 subdivision (SS) to read as follows:

10 (SS) ~~Appendix § 37, section 9.0. Feeding deer~~ [Repealed.]

11 Second: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 4502, in subsection (b), in subdivision (3),
12 by striking out subdivision (O) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new
13 subdivision (O) to read as follows:

14 (O) Appendix § 7, sections 4.0, 4.1, 4.2, 5.3, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3(b), 6.3(d),
15 6.3(e), 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, and 7.4, and 8.2. ~~Bear, unauthorized taking~~ management
16 rule

17 Third: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 4502, in subsection (b), in subdivision (3), by
18 striking out subdivision (P) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new
19 subdivision (P) to read as follows:

1 (P) Appendix § 22, sections 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 6.4, and
2 6.5. Turkey season, excluding requirements for youth turkey hunting season;
3 and size of shot used or possessed seasons

4 Fourth: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 4502, in subsection (b), in subdivision (3),
5 by striking out subdivision (U) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new
6 subdivision (U) to read as follows:

7 (U) Appendix § 37, sections 5.1, 6.1, 6.2, 7.1, 7.2, 7.4, 8.1, 8.2, 8.4,
8 9.1, 9.2, 9.4, 9.5, 12.2, and 14. Deer management rule, ~~excluding requirements~~
9 ~~for youth deer hunting weekend; requirements for novice season; limitations~~
10 ~~on feeding of deer; reporting big game; and section 11.0, ban of urine and~~
11 ~~other natural lures~~

12 Fifth: By adding one new section to be Sec. 4a to be read as follows:
13 Sec. 4a. 10 V.S.A. § 4613 is amended to read:

14 § 4613. FISHING TOURNAMENTS

15 (a)(1) No person or organization shall hold a fishing tournament on the
16 waters of the State without first obtaining a permit from the Department of
17 Fish and Wildlife. Applications for a permit to hold a fishing tournament on
18 the waters of the State shall be submitted on a form issued by the
19 Commissioner.

1 (2)(A) For any application for a fishing tournament permit, the
2 Department of Fish and Wildlife shall post notice of the tournament on the
3 Department’s website.

4 (B) Tournaments held on the Connecticut River, excluding Moore
5 and Comerford Reservoirs, that do not utilize an access area in Vermont are
6 not required to obtain a permit from the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

7 (3) The Department of Fish and Wildlife shall consult with the Drinking
8 Water and Groundwater Protection Division of the Department of
9 Environmental Conservation to develop best management practices for fishing
10 tournaments permitted on public waters that serve as a source for public
11 drinking water systems. The best management practices shall be designed to
12 mitigate any potential impact of a fishing tournament on a public water system.
13 The best management practices shall be incorporated into fishing tournament
14 permits issued by the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

15 (b) A ~~fishing tournament~~ fishing tournament means a contest in which
16 anglers pay a fee to enter and in which the entrants compete for a prize based
17 on the quality or size of the fish they catch. A contest may run multiple days,
18 but the days must be consecutive for that contest to be considered a single
19 event. A tournament that limits the entrants to ~~people~~ individuals below 15
20 years of age or a tournament held as part of a Special Olympics program shall
21 be exempt from paying the fee required under subsection (d) of this section.

1 (c) The Commissioner shall adopt rules that establish the procedure for
2 implementation of this section. The rules shall include a provision that an
3 angler may not enter a fish that was caught and confined to an enclosed area
4 prior to the beginning of the tournament.

5 (d) The Commissioner shall charge a fee based on the number of
6 participants for each permit issued under this section and shall deposit the fee
7 collected into the Fish and Wildlife Fund. Tournaments with up to 25
8 participants shall pay a fee of \$10.00; tournaments with 26 to 50 participants
9 shall pay a fee of \$30.00; and tournaments with more than 50 participants shall
10 pay a fee of \$100.00.

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13 (Committee vote: _____)

14

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Senator _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE