

SENATE No. 446

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael O. Moore

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act enhancing the enforcement of illegal hunting practices.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Michael O. Moore	Second Worcester
Timothy R. Madden	Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket
Brian R. Mannal	2nd Barnstable
Frank I. Smizik	15th Norfolk
Lori A. Ehrlich	8th Essex
Denise Provost	27th Middlesex
Chris Walsh	6th Middlesex
Carmine L. Gentile	13th Middlesex
Angelo L. D'Emilia	8th Plymouth
Cynthia S. Creem	First Middlesex and Norfolk
Jason M. Lewis	Fifth Middlesex
Kimberly N. Ferguson	1st Worcester
Thomas J. Calter	12th Plymouth
Carolyn C. Dykema	8th Middlesex
Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.	28th Middlesex
Benjamin B. Downing	Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden
Thomas M. Petrolati	7th Hampden

<i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>	<i>2nd Suffolk</i>	
<i>David T. Vieira</i>	<i>3rd Barnstable</i>	
<i>Brian A. Joyce</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth</i>	
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	
<i>Jennifer L. Flanagan</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>	
<i>Paul K. Frost</i>	<i>7th Worcester</i>	
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>	
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>	
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	
<i>Thomas P. Kennedy</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>3/4/2015</i>

SENATE No. 446

By Mr. Moore, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 446) of Michael O. Moore, Timothy R. Madden, Brian R. Mannel, Lori A. Ehrlich and other members of the General Court for legislation to enhance the enforcement of illegal hunting practices. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1948 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————
**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**
—————

An Act enhancing the enforcement of illegal hunting practices.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 21A of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section
2 10H, as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following
3 section:-

4 Section 10H. A person notified to appear before the clerk of a district court as provided in
5 section 10G for a violation of the regulations promulgated pursuant to chapter 90B, or the rules
6 and regulations of the division of fisheries and wildlife regulating activity on land under the
7 management of such division, may so appear within the time specified and pay a fine of \$50.

8 A person notified to appear before the clerk of a district court as provided in section 10G
9 for a violation of section 2, 3, 4, 5, 5A, 6, 7, subsection (b) of section 9, section 12, 12A or 13A
10 of chapter 90B may so appear within the time specified and pay a fine of \$50.

11 A person notified to appear before the clerk of a district court as provided in section 10G
12 for violation of subsections (b), (c) and (e) of section 8 of said chapter 90B may so appear within
13 the time specified and pay a fine of \$100.

14 A person notified to appear before the clerk of a district court as provided in section 10G
15 for a violation of sections 21 to 24, inclusive, of said chapter 90B may so appear within the time
16 specified and pay a fine of \$250.

17 A person notified to appear before the clerk of a district court as provided in said section
18 10G for violation of section 17A, 33, 34, 36, 39, 40, 51, 69, 70, 71, 72, 81, 82 or 95 of chapter
19 130 may so appear within the time specified and pay a fine of \$50.

20 A person notified to appear before the clerk of a district court as provided in said section
21 10G for violation of section 35, 37, 38, 38A, 41, 41A, 44, 67, 68, 80, 92, 100A or 100C of said
22 chapter 130 may so appear and pay a fine of \$100.

23 A person notified to appear before the clerk of a district court as provided in said section
24 10G for a violation of section 47 and section 75 of chapter 130, or section 65 of chapter 131,
25 may so appear within the time specified and pay a fine of \$500.

26 A person notified to appear before the clerk of a district court as provided in said section
27 10G for a violation of section 1,6, 8, 13, 16, 19A, 23 to 25, inclusive, 26, 27, 28, 30, 33, 36, 38,

28 44, 47, 49 to 54, inclusive, 57, 59, 69, 71, 72, 76, 77, 79, 80 or 82 of chapter 131 may so appear
29 and pay a fine of \$50.

30 A person notified to appear before the clerk of a district court as provided in said section
31 10G for a violation of section 5, 10, 11, or 32 of said chapter 131 may so appear and pay a fine
32 of \$250.

33 A person notified to appear before the clerk of a district court as provided in said section
34 10G for violations of section 58, 66, 67, 70, or 80A of said chapter 131 may appear and pay a
35 fine of \$100.

36 A person notified to appear before the clerk of a district court as provided in said section
37 10G for a violation of section 75A of said chapter 131 may so appear and pay a fine of \$500.

38 A person notified to appear before the clerk of a district court as provided in said section
39 10G for a violation of section 5C of chapter 90B may appear and pay a fine of \$2,000. For the
40 purposes of this paragraph, “person” shall mean a natural person, corporation, association,
41 partnership or other legal entity or other legal agency or political subdivision of the
42 commonwealth.

43 SECTION 2. Section 10 of chapter 131 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012
44 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following
45 paragraphs:-

46 The established borders of a wildlife sanctuary, to include any entry paths or ways, shall
47 be posted to provide conspicuous notice to the public of the designation of the land as a
48 sanctuary and of the prohibitions under the prior paragraph. A person shall have an affirmative

49 defense against an alleged violation of a prohibition under this section, where the required notice
50 was not posted, which if so posted, would have otherwise provided notice to such person that the
51 land is a wildlife sanctuary.

52 The director shall adopt regulations regarding the posting of sanctuary land, to include
53 that notice be posted in a conspicuous manner for the type of terrain, at intervals of not greater
54 than 300 feet in distance, along the borders of such land.

55 SECTION 3. Section 21A of said chapter 131, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
56 striking out, in line 16, the figure "\$300" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:-
57 \$1,000.

58 SECTION 4. Said section 21A of said chapter 131, as so appearing, is hereby further
59 amended by striking out, in line 16, the figure "\$1,000" and inserting in place thereof the
60 following figure:- \$5,000.

61 SECTION 5. Said section 21A of said chapter 131, as so appearing, is hereby further
62 amended by striking out, in line 17, the word "six" and inserting in place thereof the following
63 figure:- 12.

64 SECTION 6. Said chapter 131 is hereby further amended by striking out section 34, as so
65 appearing, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

66 Section 34. A license, permit or certificate issued under a provision of this chapter,
67 except a license issued under clauses (3), (4) or (6) of section 23, held by a person found guilty
68 of, convicted of, or assessed in any manner after a plea of nolo contendere or penalized for a
69 violation of clause (15) of section 4 or section 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 32, 33, 54, 57, 58, 61, 62, 63,

70 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 70, 72, 73, 75, 80, or 85 or a rule or regulation made under the authority of
71 such section, for which that particular license, permit or certificate was issued, then that
72 particular license, permit or certificate shall be void and shall immediately be surrendered to an
73 officer authorized to enforce this chapter. Such person or a person acting on his behalf shall not
74 be given or make application for, that particular license, permit or certificate that was voided due
75 to:

76 (i) a violation under clause (15) of section 4 or section 12, 13, 16, 33, 54, 57, 58, 61, 63,
77 64, 66, 67, 70, 72, or 80 or a rule or regulation made under the authority of such section, for a
78 period of 1 year from the date that person was found guilty of, or penalized for, the violation;

79 (ii) an initial violation under section 5, 10, 11, 32, 62, 65, 68, 73, 75 or 85, for a period of
80 not less than 1 year and not more than 3 years from the date that person was found guilty of, or
81 penalized for, the violation;

82 (iii) a second violation under section 5, 11, 32, 62, 65, 68, 73, 75 or 85 for a period of not
83 less than 3 years and not more than 10 years from the date that person was found guilty of, or
84 penalized for, the violation;

85 (iv) a second violation under section 10 for a period of not less than 3 years and not more
86 than 5 years from the date that person was found guilty of, or penalized for, the violation;

87 (v) a third or subsequent violation under section 5, 11, 32, 62, 65, 68, 73, 75 or 85, for a
88 period of not less than 10 years from the date that person was found guilty of, or penalized for,
89 the violation; or

90 (vi) a third or subsequent violation under section 10 for a period of not less than 5 years
91 and not more than 10 years from the date that person was found guilty of, or penalized for, the
92 violation.

93 A license, permit or certificate issued in violation of this section shall be void and shall
94 be immediately surrendered to an officer authorized to enforce this chapter.

95 No fee received for a license, permit or certificate made void under this section shall be
96 refunded to the holder thereof.

97 SECTION 7. Said chapter 131 is hereby further amended by striking out section 90, as so
98 appearing, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

99 Section 90. Whoever violates section 30, 35, 36, 38, 47, 49, 50, 51, 53, 54, 57, 58, 59, 69,
100 71, 72, 80, 82, 83, 84 or any rule or regulation made under those sections shall be punished by a
101 fine of not less than \$50 and not more than \$100 or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days
102 or both such fine and imprisonment. In addition, for each bird or mammal, other than a deer, bear
103 or turkey unlawfully killed, taken, held or possessed, or for each nest or egg unlawfully taken,
104 molested, distributed or destroyed a person shall be fined of not less than \$10 and not more than
105 \$50. For each deer unlawfully killed or unlawfully possessed, a person shall be fined not less
106 than \$300 and not or more than \$1,000, or by imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both
107 such fine and imprisonment. For each bear unlawfully killed or unlawfully possessed a person
108 shall be fined not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000 or by imprisonment for not more
109 than 6 months, or both such fine and imprisonment. For each turkey unlawfully killed or
110 unlawfully possessed, a person shall be fined not less than \$300 and not more than \$1,000 or by
111 imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both such fine and imprisonment.

112 Whoever violates section 5, 10 , 11, 32, 62, 85 or any rule or regulation made under those
113 sections, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500 or by
114 imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both such fine and imprisonment. In addition, for
115 each bird or mammal other than a deer, bear or turkey unlawfully killed, taken, held or
116 possessed, or for each nest or egg unlawfully taken, molested, distributed or destroyed, a person
117 shall be fined not less than \$50 and not more than \$200. For each deer unlawfully killed or
118 unlawfully possessed, a person shall be fined not less than \$500 and not more than \$3,000 or by
119 imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both such fine and imprisonment. For each bear
120 unlawfully killed or unlawfully possessed, a person shall be fined not less than \$1,000 and not
121 more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both such fine and
122 imprisonment. For each turkey unlawfully killed or unlawfully possessed, a person shall be fined
123 not less than \$500 and not more than \$3,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or
124 both such fine and imprisonment.

125 Whoever violates section 73, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not
126 more than \$5,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both. Whoever violates
127 section 16, 28, 33, 48, 61, 63, 64 or 70 or any rule or regulation made under those sections shall
128 be punished by a fine of not less than \$50 and not more than \$100 or by imprisonment for not
129 more than 60 days, or both.

130 Whoever violates section 18, 19, 19A, 60, 79 or any rule or regulation made under those
131 sections, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500 or by
132 imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both.

133 Whoever violates section 68 or of any rule or regulation made under that section, shall be
134 punished by a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$3,000 or by imprisonment for not
135 more than 1 year, or both.

136 Whoever violates section 22 or of any rule or regulation made under that section shall be
137 punished by a fine of not less than \$50 and not more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not
138 more than 6 months, or both for each fish, bird or mammal, other than a deer, bear or moose,
139 unlawfully bought, sold, bartered, exchanged, offered or exposed for sale or had in possession
140 for the purpose of sale. I In the case of a deer, a person shall be fined not less than \$1,000 and
141 not more than \$5,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both. In the case of a bear,
142 a person shall be fined not less than \$2,000 and not more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment for
143 not more than 1 year, or both. In the case of a moose, a person shall be fined not less than \$1,000
144 and not more than \$5,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both. Any person
145 found guilty of or convicted of a violation of this section who is the holder of a hunting or
146 sporting license issued under this chapter shall lose any rights thereunder and that license shall
147 be surrendered to an officer empowered to enforce this chapter. No other hunting or sporting
148 license shall be granted to that person for a period not less than 1 year.

149 Whoever violates section 41, to 43, inclusive, or any rule, regulation or order made under
150 those sections, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$5,000 or by
151 imprisonment for not more than 2 years, or both.

152 Whoever violates section 66, 67 or 86 shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$50 and
153 not more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both. Whoever fails to
154 keep open or maintain a fishway as prescribed by the director under clause (14) of section 4 shall

155 be punished by a fine of \$50 for each day that person fails to keep open or maintain that fishway
156 as prescribed.

157 Whoever violates section 65 shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$500 and not
158 more than \$3,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or both.

159 Whoever violates section 74 or 76 shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$20 and not
160 more than \$50 or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or both, for each bird or mammal
161 taken, killed or removed and for each nest or egg taken, disturbed, molested or destroyed.

162 Whoever violates section 77 shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100 or by
163 imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or both.

164 Whoever violates section 75 shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$300 and not
165 more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both, for each wild turkey
166 knowingly and unlawfully had in possession and for each nest or egg thereof taken, molested,
167 disturbed, destroyed or unlawfully had in possession.

168 Whoever violates section 77A shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100 and not
169 more than \$5,000.

170 Whoever violates section 75A shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not
171 more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both. Such person, subject
172 to section 34, shall not be issued a license, permit or certificate under this chapter during the
173 period of not less than 3 years from the date of being found guilty or penalized for violating
174 section 75A.

175 Whoever violates clause (14) of section 4 relative to a dam or obstruction for passage of
176 anadromous fish or who refuses or neglects to keep open or maintain a fishway at the time
177 prescribed by the director shall be fined \$50 for each day or part of a day that person fails to keep
178 open or maintain the dam or fishway as prescribed.

179 Whoever violates section 5C shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100 and not
180 more than \$500 or by imprisonment for not more than 14 days, or both.

181 Unless the context requires otherwise, a violation of this chapter or any rule or regulation
182 made under this chapter, for which no other penalty is provided, shall be punished by a fine of
183 not less than \$20 and not more than \$50, or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or both.

184 Any net, snare, trap, jacklight or other similar device used by a person or any bird or mammal
185 taken in violation of this chapter or any rule or regulation shall, upon a finding of guilt, be
186 forfeited to the commonwealth and shall be disposed of by the director of law enforcement for
187 the best interest of the commonwealth.

188 In addition to the penalties in this section for violating this chapter or any rule or
189 regulation made under this chapter, any person convicted of the illegal taking or illegal
190 possession of animals, birds, fur-bearing animals or fish resulting in the injury, death or
191 destruction of the same may be required to make restitution to the commonwealth for the value
192 of each animal, bird, fur-bearing animal or fish illegally taken or possessed as follows:

193 (i) deer or bear, \$300 per animal;

194 (ii) wild turkey, fisher, bobcat or otter, \$200 per animal;

195 (iii) fox, coyote or beaver, \$50 per animal;

- 196 (iv) mink, muskrat, raccoon, wild rabbit, hare or gray squirrel, \$25 per animal;
- 197 (v) ruffed grouse, pheasant, quail, woodcock or migratory waterfowl, \$25 per bird;
- 198 (vi) fish, \$5 per fish; and
- 199 (vii) other animals or birds, \$10 per animal or bird.

200 Any person convicted of the illegal taking or illegal possession of endangered, threatened
201 and special concern species included on the official Massachusetts list of endangered wildlife
202 and wild plants, established under section 4 of chapter 131A, may be required to make restitution
203 to the commonwealth for the value of each such species illegally taken or possessed as follows:

- 204 (i) endangered species, \$2,000;
- 205 (ii) threatened species, \$1,000; and
- 206 (iii) species of special concern, \$500.

207 The fines imposed for violations of this chapter or any rule or regulation made under this
208 chapter shall not be suspended or waived.

209 For a conviction involving the illegal taking or possession of animals, birds, fur-bearing
210 animals and fish, the court may order the defendant to reimburse the commonwealth in a sum
211 that exceeds the amount established in this section. Such reimbursement shall be paid directly to
212 the court. If 2 or more defendants are convicted of the illegal taking or possession of the animal,
213 bird, fur-bearing animal or fish, the reimbursement shall be declared against the defendants
214 jointly and severally. The court ordering such reimbursement shall remit the money as prescribed
215 in section 3.

216 Any person failing to make a damage assessment payment as ordered by the court shall
217 be guilty of contempt and such person shall not be eligible to purchase a license issued by the
218 division of fisheries and wildlife until all assessments are paid in full.

219 SECTION 8. Said chapter 131 is hereby further amended by striking out section 90A, as
220 so appearing, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

221 Section 90A. A person whose privilege to hunt, trap or fish has been suspended or
222 revoked in any jurisdiction of the United States or Canada, shall not be licensed for such activity
223 in the commonwealth or if so licensed at the time, such license shall be suspended during the
224 period of such suspension or revocation if, after notice and hearing, the director determines that
225 the offense carrying such suspension or revocation would constitute a violation of section 10, 13,
226 22, 61, 62, 64, 65, 68, 69, 73, 74, 75, 75A, 79, 80, 80A or 82. That licensed person shall
227 immediately return that license to the division of fisheries and wildlife.

228 A person who hunts, traps or fishes in the commonwealth when that person's privilege to
229 conduct such activity has been suspended or revoked in any jurisdiction of the United States or
230 Canada for an offense that would constitute a violation of section 10, 13, 22, 61, 62, 64, 65, 68,
231 69, 73, 74, 75, 75A, 79, 80, 80A or 82 shall be punished consistent with the penalties assessed
232 for hunting, trapping or fishing without a license in violation of section 11. A person who fails to
233 immediately return a license in violation of this section shall be punished by a fine of not less
234 than \$50 and not more than \$200.

235 SECTION 9. Said chapter 131 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 90A
236 the following section:-

237 Section 90B. Whoever violates section 5, 22, 65 or 68 or any rule or regulation made
238 under those sections with respect to three or more animals of any species covered by this section
239 within the preceding 10 years, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more
240 than \$15,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 5 years in state prison, or both such fine and
241 imprisonment.

242 The penalties set forth in this section shall apply to persons whose total violations within
243 the last 10 years involves 3 or more animals and shall also apply to every violation thereafter.

244 Species covered by this section are deer, turkey, moose, fisher, bobcat, bear, any bird of
245 prey as defined in section 75A and any endangered, threatened or special concern species
246 included on the official Massachusetts List of Endangered Wildlife and Wild Plants established
247 under section 4 of chapter 131A.

248 A person penalized under this section shall immediately surrender any license, permit or
249 certificate issued under this chapter to an officer authorized to enforce this chapter, except a
250 license issued under clauses (3), (4) or (6) of section 23. Such surrendered license, permit or
251 certificate shall be void. That person or a person acting on that person's behalf shall not be given
252 or apply for that particular license, permit or certificate that was voided due to a violation under
253 this section for a period of not less than 10 years from the date that person was found guilty or
254 penalized, and any license, permit or certificate so issued shall be void and shall be surrendered
255 to an officer authorized to enforce this chapter.

256 SECTION 10. The General Laws are hereby amended by inserting after chapter 131A the
257 following chapter:-

258 CHAPTER 131B

259 WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT

260 The governor shall enter into a compact on behalf of the commonwealth with any other
261 jurisdiction legally joining therein in the form substantially as follows:-

262 ARTICLE I. Findings and Purpose

263 (a) The participating states find that:

264 (1) wildlife resources are managed in trust by the respective states for the benefit of all
265 residents and visitors;

266 (2) the protection of the wildlife resources of a state is materially affected by the degree
267 of compliance with state statutes, laws, regulations, ordinances and administrative rules relating
268 to the management of such resources;

269 (3) the preservation, protection, management and restoration of wildlife contributes
270 immeasurably to the aesthetic, recreational and economic aspects of such natural resources;

271 (4) wildlife resources are valuable without regard to political boundaries, therefore every
272 person should be required to comply with wildlife preservation, protection, management and
273 restoration laws, ordinances and administrative rules and regulations of the participating states as
274 a condition precedent to the continuance or issuance of any license to hunt, fish, trap or possess
275 wildlife;

276 (5) violations of wildlife laws interferes with the management of wildlife resources and
277 may endanger the safety of people and property;

278 (6) the mobility of many wildlife law violators necessitates the maintenance of channels
279 of communication among the various states;

280 (7) in most instances, a person who is cited for a wildlife violation in a state other than
281 that person's home state is:

282 (i) Required to post collateral or a bond to secure appearance for a trial at a later date;

283 (ii) Taken into custody until the collateral or bond is posted; or

284 (iii) Taken directly to court for an immediate appearance;

285 (8) the purpose of the enforcement practices set forth in paragraph (7) is to ensure
286 compliance with the terms of a wildlife citation by the cited person who, if permitted to continue
287 on after receiving the citation, could return to that person's home state and disregard the duty
288 established by the terms of the citation;

289 (9) in most instances, a person receiving a wildlife citation in that person's home state is
290 permitted to accept the citation from the officer at the scene of the violation and immediately
291 continue on after agreeing or being instructed to comply with the terms of the citation;

292 (10) the practices described in paragraph (7) cause unnecessary inconvenience and, at
293 times, a hardship for the person who is unable to post collateral at the time of the violation,
294 furnish a bond, stand trial or pay a fine and thus is compelled to remain in custody until some
295 alternative arrangement is made; and

296 (11) the enforcement practices described in paragraph (7) consume an undue amount of
297 time of law enforcement agencies.

- 298 (b) It is the policy of the participating states to:
- 299 (1) promote compliance with the statutes, laws, ordinances, regulations and
300 administrative rules relating to the management of wildlife resources in their respective states;
- 301 (2) recognize a suspension of the wildlife license privileges of any person whose license
302 privileges have been suspended by a participating state and treat such suspension as if it had
303 occurred in each respective state;
- 304 (3) allow a violator, if that violator's home state is a party to this compact, to continue on,
305 without delay, after receiving a wildlife citation in another member state, except as provided in
306 subsection (2) of Article III;
- 307 (4) report to the appropriate participating state, as provided in the compact manual, any
308 conviction recorded against a person whose home state was not the issuing state;
- 309 (5) allow the home state to recognize and treat convictions recorded against its residents,
310 when such conviction occurs in another member state, as though that conviction had occurred in
311 the violator's home state;
- 312 (6) extend cooperation to its fullest extent among the participating states for enforcing
313 compliance with the terms of a wildlife citation issued in 1 participating state to a resident of
314 another participating state;
- 315 (7) maximize the effective use of law enforcement personnel and information; and
- 316 (8) assist court systems in the efficient disposition of wildlife violations.
- 317 (c) The purpose of this compact is to:

318 (1) provide a means through which participating states may join in a reciprocal program
319 to effectuate the policies enumerated in subsection (b) in a uniform and orderly manner; and

320 (2) provide for the fair and impartial treatment of wildlife violators operating within
321 participating states in recognition of the violator's right to due process and the sovereign status of
322 a participating state.

323 ARTICLE II. Definitions

324 As used in this compact, the following words shall, unless the context clearly requires
325 otherwise, have the following meanings:

326 "Citation", a summons, complaint, ticket, penalty assessment or other official document
327 issued to a person by a wildlife officer or peace officer for a wildlife violation which contains an
328 order requiring the person to respond.

329 "Collateral", cash or other security deposited to secure an appearance for trial in
330 connection with the issuance by a wildlife officer or peace officer of a citation for a wildlife
331 violation.

332 "Compliance", the act of answering a citation by an appearance in a court or tribunal; or
333 any the payment of any fines, costs and surcharges.

334 "Conviction", a conviction that results in suspension or revocation of a license, including
335 any court conviction, for an offense related to the preservation, protection, management or
336 restoration of wildlife which is prohibited by state statute, law, regulation, ordinance or
337 administrative rule. The term also includes the forfeiture of any bail, bond or other security
338 deposited to secure appearance by a person charged with having committed any such offense, the

339 payment of a penalty assessment, a plea of nolo contendere or the imposition of a deferred or
340 suspended sentence by the court.

341 "Court", a court of law, including magistrate's court and the justice of the peace court.

342 "Home state", the state of primary residence of a person.

343 "Issuing state", the participating state that issues a wildlife citation to the violator.

344 "License" a license, permit or other public document that conveys to the person to whom
345 it was issued the privilege of pursuing, possessing or taking any wildlife regulated by statute,
346 law, regulation, ordinance or administrative rule of a participating state; any privilege to obtain
347 such license, permit or other public document; or any statutory exemption from the requirement
348 to obtain such license, permit or other public document.

349 "Licensing authority", the department or division within each participating state that is
350 authorized by law to issue or approve licenses or permits to hunt, fish, trap or possess wildlife.

351 "Participating state", any state that enacts legislation to become a member of this wildlife
352 compact.

353 "Personal recognizance", an agreement by a person, made at the time a wildlife citation is
354 issued, that such person will comply with the terms of the citation.

355 "State", a state, territory or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, the
356 commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the provinces of Canada and other countries.

357 "Suspension", revocation, denial or withdrawal of license privileges, including the
358 privilege to apply for, purchase or exercise the benefits conferred by a license.

359 "Terms of the citation", conditions and options expressly stated upon the citation.

360 "Wildlife", all species of animals, including, but not limited to, mammals, birds, fish,
361 reptiles, amphibians, mollusks and crustaceans, which are defined as "wildlife" and are protected
362 or otherwise regulated by statute, law, regulation, ordinance or administrative rule in a
363 participating state. Species included in the definition of "wildlife" vary from state to state and the
364 determination of whether a species is "wildlife" for the purposes of this compact shall be based
365 on local law.

366 "Wildlife law", a statute, law, regulation, ordinance or administrative rule developed and
367 enacted for the management and use of wildlife resources.

368 "Wildlife officer", an individual authorized by a participating state to issue a citation for a
369 wildlife violation.

370 "Wildlife violation", a cited violation of a statute, law, regulation, ordinance or
371 administrative rule developed and enacted for the management and use of wildlife resources.

372 ARTICLE III. Procedures for Issuing State

373 (a) When issuing a citation for a wildlife violation, a wildlife officer shall issue a citation
374 to any person whose primary residence is in a participating state in the same manner as though
375 the person were a resident of the issuing state and shall not require that person to post collateral
376 to secure appearance; provided, however, that subject to the exceptions noted in subsection (b), if
377 the officer receives the recognizance of that person stating that such person will comply with the
378 terms of the citation.

379 (b) Personal recognizance is acceptable if it is not prohibited by local law, policy,
380 procedure or regulation of the issuing agency or by the compact manual; provided, however that
381 the violator provides adequate proof of identification to the wildlife officer.

382 (c) Upon conviction or failure of a person to comply with the terms of a wildlife citation,
383 the appropriate official shall report the conviction or failure to comply to the licensing authority
384 of the participating state in which the wildlife citation was issued. The report shall be made
385 under the procedures specified by the issuing state and must contain information as specified in
386 the compact manual as minimum requirements for effective processing by the home state.

387 (d) Upon receipt of the report of conviction or noncompliance under subsection (c), the
388 licensing authority of the issuing state shall transmit to the licensing authority of the home state
389 of the violator the information in the form and content prescribed in the compact manual.

390 ARTICLE IV. Procedure for Home State

391 (a) Upon receipt of a report from the licensing authority of the issuing state reporting the
392 failure of a violator to comply with the terms of a citation, the licensing authority of the home
393 state shall notify the violator and shall initiate a suspension action in accordance with the home
394 state's suspension procedures and shall suspend the violator's license privileges until satisfactory
395 evidence of compliance with the terms of the wildlife citation has been furnished by the issuing
396 state to the home state licensing authority. Due-process safeguards shall be accorded.

397 (b) Upon receipt of a report of conviction from the licensing authority of the issuing state,
398 the licensing authority of the home state shall enter such conviction in its records and shall treat
399 such conviction as though it occurred in the home state for the purposes of suspension of license
400 privileges.

401 (c) The licensing authority of the home state shall maintain a record of actions taken and
402 shall make reports to issuing states as provided in the compact manual.

403 ARTICLE V. Reciprocal Recognition of Suspension

404 (a) Each participating state may recognize the suspension of a person's license privileges
405 by another participating state as though the violation resulting in the suspension had occurred in
406 that state and would have been the basis for suspension of license privileges in that state.

407 (b) Each participating state shall communicate suspension information to other
408 participating states in the form and content contained in the compact manual.

409 ARTICLE VI. Applicability of Other Laws

410 Except as expressly required by this compact, this compact does not affect the right of
411 any participating state to apply its laws relating to license privileges to a person or circumstance
412 or to invalidate or prevent an agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a
413 participating state and a nonparticipating state concerning the enforcement of wildlife laws.

414 ARTICLE VII. Compact Administrator Procedures

415 (a) For the purpose of administering this compact and to serve as a governing body for
416 the resolution of all matters relating to the operation of this compact, there shall be a board of
417 compact administrators. The board shall be composed of 1 representative from each of the
418 participating states to be known as the compact administrator. The compact administrator shall
419 be appointed by the head of the licensing authority of each participating state and shall serve and
420 be subject to removal under the laws of the state that compact administrator represents. A
421 compact administrator may provide for the discharge of the compact administrator's duties and

422 the performance of such functions as a board member by an alternate. An alternate is not entitled
423 to serve unless written notification of the alternate's identity is given to the board.

424 (b) Each member of the board of compact administrators shall be entitled to 1 vote. No
425 action of the board shall be binding unless taken at a meeting at which a majority of the total
426 number of the board's votes are cast in favor of the action. Action by the board shall be only at a
427 meeting at which a majority of the participating states are represented.

428 (c) The board shall annually elect, from its membership, a chairman and vice chairman.

429 (d) The board shall adopt by-laws consistent with this compact or the laws of a
430 participating state for the conduct of its business and shall have the power to amend and rescind
431 those by-laws.

432 (e) The board may accept donations and grants of moneys, equipment, supplies, materials
433 and services, conditional or otherwise, from any state, the United States or any governmental
434 agency and may receive, use, and dispose of the same in order to carry out the purposes and
435 functions of the board under this compact.

436 (f) The board may contract with or accept services or personnel from a governmental or
437 intergovernmental agency, individual, firm, corporation or private nonprofit organization or
438 institution.

439 (g) The board shall formulate all necessary procedures and develop uniform forms and
440 documents for administering this compact. All procedures and forms adopted by board action
441 shall be contained in a compact manual.

442 ARTICLE VIII. Entry into Compact and Withdrawal

443 (a) This compact shall become effective at such time as it is adopted in substantially
444 similar form by 2 or more states.

445 (b) Entry into the compact shall be made by resolution of ratification executed by the
446 authorized officials of the applying state and submitted to the chairman of the board.

447 (c) The resolution shall substantially be in the form and content provided in the compact
448 manual and must include:

449 (i) a citation of the authority from which the state is empowered to become a party to this
450 compact;

451 (ii) an agreement of compliance with the terms this compact; and

452 (iii) an agreement that compact entry is with all states participating in the compact and
453 with all additional states legally becoming a party to the compact.

454 (d) The effective date of entry shall be specified by the applying state, but may not be less
455 than 60 days after notice has been given by the chairman of the board of the compact
456 administrators or by the secretariat of the board to each participating state that the resolution
457 from the applying state has been received.

458 (e) A participating state may withdraw from participation in this compact by official
459 written notice to each participating state, but withdrawal shall not become effective until 90 days
460 after giving notice of withdrawal. The notice must be directed to the compact administrator of
461 each member state. The withdrawal of any state does not affect the validity of this compact as to
462 the remaining participating states.

463 ARTICLE IX. Amendments to the Compact

464 (a) This compact may be amended. Amendments shall be presented in resolution form to
465 the chairman of the board of compact administrators and shall be initiated by 1 or more
466 participating states.

467 (b) Adoption of an amendment shall require endorsement by all participating states and
468 shall become effective 30 days after the date of the last endorsement.

469 ARTICLE X. Construction and Severability

470 This compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes stated herein.
471 The provisions of this compact are severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of
472 this compact is declared to be contrary to the constitution of a participating state or of the United
473 States, or if the applicability thereof to any government, agency, individual or circumstance is
474 held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this compact shall not be affected. If this compact is
475 held contrary to the constitution of a participating state, the compact shall remain in full force
476 and effect as to the remaining states and in full force and effect as to the participating state
477 affected as to all severable matters.