

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2918**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Ann-Margaret Ferrante and Lori A. Ehrlich*

*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 further regulating the enforcement of illegal hunting practices.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Ann-Margaret Ferrante</i>	<i>5th Essex</i>	<i>1/20/2017</i>
<i>Lori A. Ehrlich</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>	<i>1/27/2017</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Jack Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	
<i>John W. Scibak</i>	<i>2nd Hampshire</i>	
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	
<i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>	<i>2nd Suffolk</i>	
<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>	
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Bradford R. Hill</i>	<i>4th Essex</i>	
<i>Carmine L. Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	
<i>James R. Miceli</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	

<i>William L. Crocker, Jr.</i>	<i>2nd Barnstable</i>	
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	
<i>Adrian Madaro</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>	
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>	
<i>David M. Nangle</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	
<i>Daniel J. Hunt</i>	<i>13th Suffolk</i>	
<i>Gailanne M. Cariddi</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>	
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	
<i>Sarah K. Peake</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>	
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Paul Tucker</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>	
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Natalie Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>	
<i>John H. Rogers</i>	<i>12th Norfolk</i>	
<i>Thomas J. Calter</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>	
<i>Alice Hanlon Peisch</i>	<i>14th Norfolk</i>	
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>	
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>	
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2918**

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By Representatives Ferrante of Gloucester and Ehrlich of Marblehead, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2918) of Ann-Margaret Ferrante and others relative to penalties and enforcement of illegal hunting practices. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 2069 OF 2015-2016.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act further regulating 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,  
77 61, 63, 64, 66, 67, 70, 72, or 80 or a rule or regulation made under the authority of such section,  
78 for a period of 1 year from the date that person was found guilty of, or penalized for, the  
79 violation;

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

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

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

89 (v) a third or subsequent violation under section 5, 11, 32, 62, 65, 68, 73, 75 or  
90 85, for a period of not less than 10 years from the date that person was found guilty of, or  
91 penalized for, the violation; or

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

159           Whoever violates section 65 shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$500 and not  
160 more than \$3,000 or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

198 (iv) mink, muskrat, raccoon, wild rabbit, hare or gray squirrel, \$25 per animal;

199 (v) ruffed grouse, pheasant, quail, woodcock or migratory waterfowl, \$25 per

200 bird;

201 (vi) fish, \$5 per fish; and

202 (vii) other animals or birds, \$10 per animal or bird.

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

207 (i) endangered species, \$2,000;

208 (ii) threatened species, \$1,000; and

209 (iii) species of special concern, \$500.

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

212 For a conviction involving the illegal taking or possession of animals, birds, fur-bearing  
213 animals and fish, the court may order the defendant to reimburse the commonwealth in a sum  
214 that exceeds the amount established in this section. Such reimbursement shall be paid directly to  
215 the court. If 2 or more defendants are convicted of the illegal taking or possession of the animal,  
216 bird, fur-bearing animal or fish, the reimbursement shall be declared against the defendants

217 jointly and severally. The court ordering such reimbursement shall remit the money as prescribed  
218 in section 3.

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

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

224 Section 90A. A person whose privilege to hunt, trap or fish has been suspended or  
225 revoked in any jurisdiction of the United States or Canada, shall not be licensed for such activity  
226 in the commonwealth or if so licensed at the time, such license shall be suspended during the  
227 period of such suspension or revocation if, after notice and hearing, the director determines that  
228 the offense carrying such suspension or revocation would constitute a violation of section 10, 13,  
229 22, 61, 62, 64, 65, 68, 69, 73, 74, 75, 75A, 79, 80, 80A or 82. That licensed person shall  
230 immediately return that license to the division of fisheries and wildlife.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

261 CHAPTER 131B

262 WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT

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

265 ARTICLE I. Findings and Purpose

266 (a) The participating states find that:

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

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

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

275 (4) wildlife resources are valuable without regard to political boundaries,  
276 therefore every person should be required to comply with wildlife preservation, protection,  
277 management and restoration laws, ordinances and administrative rules and regulations of the



278 participating states as a condition precedent to the continuance or issuance of any license to hunt,  
279 fish, trap or possess wildlife;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

304 (b) It is the policy of the participating states to:

305 (1) promote compliance with the statutes, laws, ordinances, regulations and  
306 administrative rules relating to the management of wildlife resources in their respective states;

307 (2) recognize a suspension of the wildlife license privileges of any person whose  
308 license privileges have been suspended by a participating state and treat such suspension as if it  
309 had occurred in each respective state;

310 (3) allow a violator, if that violator's home state is a party to this compact, to  
311 continue on, without delay, after receiving a wildlife citation in another member state, except as  
312 provided in subsection (2) of Article III;

313 (4) report to the appropriate participating state, as provided in the compact  
314 manual, any conviction recorded against a person whose home state was not the issuing state;

315 (5) allow the home state to recognize and treat convictions recorded against its  
316 residents, when such conviction occurs in another member state, as though that conviction had  
317 occurred in the violator's home state;

318 (6) extend cooperation to its fullest extent among the participating states for  
319 enforcing compliance with the terms of a wildlife citation issued in 1 participating state to a  
320 resident of another participating state;

321 (7) maximize the effective use of law enforcement personnel and information; and

322 (8) assist court systems in the efficient disposition of wildlife violations.

323 (c) The purpose of this compact is to:

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

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

## 330 ARTICLE II. Definitions

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

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

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

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

341 "Conviction", a conviction that results in suspension or revocation of a license, including  
342 any court conviction, for an offense related to the preservation, protection, management or  
343 restoration of wildlife which is prohibited by state statute, law, regulation, ordinance or  
344 administrative rule. The term also includes the forfeiture of any bail, bond or other security  
345 deposited to secure appearance by a person charged with having committed any such offense, the  
346 payment of a penalty assessment, a plea of nolo contendere or the imposition of a deferred or  
347 suspended sentence by the court.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

379 ARTICLE III. Procedures for Issuing State

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

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

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

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

397 ARTICLE IV. Procedure for Home State

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

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

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

#### 410 ARTICLE V. Reciprocal Recognition of Suspension

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

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

#### 416 ARTICLE VI. Applicability of Other Laws

417 Except as expressly required by this compact, this compact does not affect the right of  
418 any participating state to apply its laws relating to license privileges to a person or circumstance

419 or to invalidate or prevent an agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a  
420 participating state and a nonparticipating state concerning the enforcement of wildlife laws.

421 ARTICLE VII. Compact Administrator Procedures

422 (a) For the purpose of administering this compact and to serve as a governing body for  
423 the resolution of all matters relating to the operation of this compact, there shall be a board of  
424 compact administrators. The board shall be composed of 1 representative from each of the  
425 participating states to be known as the compact administrator. The compact administrator shall  
426 be appointed by the head of the licensing authority of each participating state and shall serve and  
427 be subject to removal under the laws of the state that compact administrator represents. A  
428 compact administrator may provide for the discharge of the compact administrator's duties and  
429 the performance of such functions as a board member by an alternate. An alternate is not entitled  
430 to serve unless written notification of the alternate's identity is given to the board.

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

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

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



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

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

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

449 ARTICLE VIII. Entry into Compact and Withdrawal

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### 470 ARTICLE IX. Amendments to the Compact

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

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

#### 476 ARTICLE X. Construction and Severability

477 This compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes stated herein.  
478 The provisions of this compact are severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of  
479 this compact is declared to be contrary to the constitution of a participating state or of the United

480 States, or if the applicability thereof to any government, agency, individual or circumstance is  
481 held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this compact shall not be affected. If this compact is  
482 held contrary to the constitution of a participating state, the compact shall remain in full force  
483 and effect as to the remaining states and in full force and effect as to the participating state  
484 affected as to all severable matters.