



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2016

LCO No. 6110



Offered by:

SEN. KENNEDY, 12<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. ALBIS, 99<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. LESSER, 100<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. MINER, 66<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5315

File No. 739

Cal. No. 515

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE HABITUATION OF BEARS AND  
COYOTES ON PROPERTY NOT OWNED BY THE STATE."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 26-25a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

5 (a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may  
6 adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54  
7 prohibiting or restricting the feeding of wildlife on state-owned  
8 property and prohibiting or restricting the feeding of bears or coyotes  
9 on property that is not owned by the state and that is designated by  
10 the commissioner as an area where such feeding of bears or coyotes is  
11 prohibited or restricted. Such regulations shall include, but not be  
12 limited to, procedures for designating areas subject to such

13 prohibitions or restrictions and authorization to issue warnings and  
14 provide educational materials for first-time violations for feeding bears  
15 or coyotes that occur on property that is not owned by the state and  
16 that is designated by the commissioner as an area where such feeding  
17 of bears or coyotes is prohibited or restricted. Any such designation  
18 shall be effective after public notice and a public comment period.

19 (b) Any conservation officer appointed pursuant to section 26-5 and  
20 any other officer authorized to serve criminal process may enforce any  
21 regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. Any  
22 violation of such regulations shall be an infraction, except a first-time  
23 violation for feeding bears or coyotes, that occurs on property that is  
24 not owned by the state and that is designated by the commissioner as  
25 an area where such feeding of bears or coyotes is prohibited or  
26 restricted shall result in the issuance of a written warning and  
27 provision of education materials.

28 Sec. 2. Section 26-82a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
29 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

30 The commissioner shall issue, upon payment of a five-dollar fee, to  
31 the owner of ten or more acres of private land or a resident of this  
32 state, who has the consent of the owner of ten or more acres of private  
33 land, a private land [revolver] handgun permit that allows the use of a  
34 [revolver, as defined in section 29-27,] handgun to hunt deer from  
35 November first to December thirty-first, inclusive, pursuant to the bag  
36 limit established for a private land deer permit under subsection (a) of  
37 section 26-86a. For the purposes of this section and section 26-35, as  
38 amended by this act, "handgun" means any firearm with a rifled bore  
39 that is intended to be fired from a handheld position and that holds  
40 individual cartridges in individual chambers regardless of whether  
41 such firearm contains multiple chambers arrayed in a cylinder or a  
42 single chamber. Any person who uses a handgun to hunt deer  
43 pursuant to this section shall additionally use such handgun in  
44 accordance with the provisions of title 29 if such handgun meets the  
45 definition of a pistol or revolver, as defined in section 29-27. Any

46 person authorized to hunt deer by [revolver] handgun pursuant to this  
47 section shall use a cartridge of .357 caliber or larger for such purpose.

48 Sec. 3. Section 26-35 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
49 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

50 Each firearms hunting, archery hunting, trapping or sport fishing  
51 license or the combination firearms hunting and fishing license, except  
52 licenses issued pursuant to subdivisions (4), (19) and (21) of subsection  
53 (a) of section 26-28, shall expire December thirty-first next following  
54 the date of issue and shall not be transferable. No person shall change  
55 or alter such a license or loan to another or permit another to have or  
56 use such license issued to himself or use any license issued to another.  
57 All licenses shall be carried as designated by the commissioner at all  
58 times when such licensee is hunting, trapping or sport fishing and  
59 shall be produced for examination upon demand of any conservation  
60 officer or other employee of the department designated by the  
61 commissioner or any other officer authorized to make arrests or the  
62 owner or lessee or the agent of any owner or lessee of any land or  
63 water upon which such licensed person may be found. Whenever the  
64 commissioner has designated any land or water area a wildlife  
65 management study area, he may require such licensee to surrender his  
66 license upon entering such area and issue to the licensee an arm band,  
67 back tag or other identification. The license shall be returned to the  
68 licensee upon leaving such area. Each person receiving a license to  
69 hunt or to trap shall make an annual report to the commissioner in  
70 such form and at such time as may be required by him showing the  
71 numbers and kinds of birds and quadrupeds killed or trapped. A  
72 firearms hunting or a combination firearms hunting and fishing license  
73 shall not authorize the carrying or possession of a handgun, pistol or  
74 revolver, except as provided in section 26-82a.

75 Sec. 4. Section 26-78 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
76 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

77 (a) No person shall buy, sell or exchange, or have in possession with

78 intent to sell or exchange, any wild or game bird, wild quadruped,  
79 reptile or amphibian, alive or dead, or parts thereof, including  
80 plumage of any such bird, except as provided in this chapter, provided  
81 any game bird, wild quadruped, reptile or amphibian, alive or dead, or  
82 parts thereof, not including plumage of any such bird, legally taken  
83 and legally transported into this state from any other state or country  
84 which does not prohibit the sale or exportation of such bird, wild  
85 quadruped, reptile or amphibian, may be bought or sold in this state at  
86 any time of the year under such regulations as may be made by the  
87 commissioner. The commissioner may make regulations governing the  
88 importation, transportation, purchase, sale or exchange of wild or  
89 game bird plumage. Any wild or game bird, wild quadruped, reptile  
90 or amphibian, alive or dead, or parts thereof, including plumage of  
91 such birds, possessed contrary to any of the provisions of this section  
92 or any regulation made by the commissioner, shall be seized by any  
93 representative of the department; and the commissioner or his  
94 authorized agent shall make disposition of the same by sale or  
95 destruction or by gift to any educational institution, museum,  
96 zoological park or any other suitable place where in the opinion of the  
97 commissioner an educational purpose will be served. The provisions of  
98 this section shall not prohibit the possession, sale or exchange of heads,  
99 hides or pelts of legally acquired deer and fur-bearing animals or the  
100 possession and mounting of legally acquired game birds, wild  
101 quadrupeds, reptiles and amphibians. Each wild or game bird, wild  
102 quadruped, reptile or amphibian, or part thereof, or each lot or  
103 package of wild or game bird plumage, possessed contrary to any  
104 provision of this section or any regulation issued by the commissioner,  
105 shall constitute a separate offense. Said commissioner may make  
106 regulations authorizing the importation, exportation, possession, sale  
107 and exchange of legally acquired, protected and unprotected species of  
108 live wild birds, live wild quadrupeds, reptiles and amphibians under  
109 such conditions as said commissioner shall determine. Said  
110 commissioner may order any such bird, quadruped, reptile or  
111 amphibian impounded for such period, at such place and in such  
112 manner as is determined by the commissioner, to allow examination to

113 determine if such bird, quadruped, reptile or amphibian is diseased or  
 114 infected with parasites, and the commissioner is authorized to order  
 115 the destruction of such bird, quadruped, reptile or amphibian when in  
 116 his opinion such action would be advisable in the public interest. Any  
 117 person who violates any provision of this section or any regulation or  
 118 order issued by the commissioner under this section shall be guilty of a  
 119 class C misdemeanor. The provisions of this section shall not apply to  
 120 snapping turtles except as provided in regulations adopted pursuant  
 121 to subsection (b) of this section.

122 (b) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with  
 123 the provisions of chapter 54, concerning the purchase, sale, exchange  
 124 and possession of snapping turtles, whether living or not, and any part  
 125 thereof. Any snapping turtle purchased, sold or exchanged pursuant to  
 126 this section and any snapping turtle taken pursuant to any regulation  
 127 adopted by the commissioner pursuant to section 26-66 shall be  
 128 reported to the commissioner in such form and manner as required by  
 129 the commissioner.

130 (c) After reviewing any data reported pursuant to subsection (b) of  
 131 this section, the commissioner may charge a fee of not more than  
 132 twenty dollars for any person to engage in the purchase, sale or  
 133 exchange of snapping turtles."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	26-25a
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	26-82a
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	26-35
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	26-78