
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2107 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY STEELE, PROBST, DELLOSO, GUENST, HILL-EVANS, KHAN,
WAXMAN, STAMBAUGH, DALEY, FRIEL AND SCOTT, MARCH 14, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAME AND FISHERIES, MARCH 14, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in protection of property and persons, providing
3 for mitigation of damage and for registry of responsible
4 hunters.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Chapter 25 of Title 34 of the Pennsylvania
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subchapter to read:

9 SUBCHAPTER C

10 MITIGATION OF DAMAGE

11 Sec.

12 2541. Definitions.

13 2542. Damage caused by deer or other game.

14 2543. Registry of responsible hunters.

15 § 2541. Definitions.

16 The following words and phrases when used in this subchapter
17 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
18 context clearly indicates otherwise:

19 "Crops." As follows:

1 (1) Plants, including, but not limited to, ornamental
2 and fruit trees, that are cultivated for sale, production,
3 processing or subsistence.

4 (2) The term does not include wild plants.

5 "Registry." The registry of responsible hunters developed
6 and implemented under section 2543(a) (relating to registry of
7 responsible hunters).

8 § 2542. Damage caused by deer or other game.

9 (a) Permissible actions.--If a deer or other game is causing
10 damage to crops, vegetables, livestock, poultry or beehives on
11 the private land owned, operated or leased by a farmer, the
12 farmer or an authorized agent of the farmer may, in accordance
13 with other State law:

14 (1) Kill and dress the deer or other game on the private
15 land.

16 (2) Contact the commission to report the killing and
17 dressing of the deer or other game because of the damage on
18 the private land.

19 (3) Transport the carcass of the deer or other game to a
20 licensed processor without waiting for an authorized agent of
21 the commission to remove the deer or other game.

22 (b) Purpose.--The actions of the farmer or authorized agent
23 of the farmer described under subsection (a)(1) and (3) shall be
24 taken for the purpose of protecting crops, vegetables,
25 livestock, poultry or beehives on the private land owned,
26 operated or leased by the farmer and not for the purpose of food
27 consumption by the household of the farmer or authorized agent
28 of the farmer or of any other related benefit to the farmer or
29 authorized agent of the farmer.

30 (c) Construction.--Nothing in this section shall be

1 construed to:

2 (1) Limit the authority of the commission or provide an
3 exclusive remedy for the killing, dressing or removal of deer
4 or other game.

5 (2) Limit the actions normally taken by a licensed
6 processor.

7 § 2543. Registry of responsible hunters.

8 (a) Development, implementation and purpose.--Within two
9 years of the effective date of this subsection, the commission
10 shall develop and implement a registry of responsible hunters to
11 assist farmers with the killing and dressing of deer and other
12 game causing damage on the private land of farmers.

13 (b) Considerations.--In developing and implementing the
14 registry, the department shall address the following:

15 (1) How an individual who applies for a hunting license
16 may, at the time of application, opt to be listed on the
17 registry.

18 (2) How an individual with a hunting license may opt to
19 be listed on the registry.

20 (3) The qualifications for an individual to be listed on
21 the registry, which shall include:

22 (i) The consent of the individual to be listed on
23 the registry.

24 (ii) The possession by the individual of a current
25 hunting license of this Commonwealth.

26 (iii) The lack of a record of any hunting violation
27 within the past five years.

28 (4) How an individual listed on the registry may request
29 removal from the registry at any time.

30 (5) The reasons for removal of an individual from the

1 registry, which shall include the following circumstances:

2 (i) The individual commits an offense under this
3 title.

4 (ii) The commission determines that the individual
5 has a record of a hunting violation within the past five
6 years.

7 (iii) The hunting license of the individual has
8 expired.

9 (6) How an individual with an expired hunting license
10 may reapply to be listed on the registry at the time of
11 application for a new hunting license or at any time after
12 receiving a new hunting license, as prescribed by the
13 commission.

14 (7) How to maintain the registry and update the registry
15 on a regular basis.

16 (8) How to provide access to information on the
17 registry, to facilitate the potential pairing of an
18 individual listed on the registry with a farmer or an
19 authorized agent of a farmer in need of the services of the
20 individual, which may include:

21 (i) Providing information, upon reasonable request,
22 directly to the farmer or authorized agent of the farmer.

23 (ii) Providing information on the registry by
24 electronic means through password-protected access, as
25 prescribed by the commission.

26 (9) Privacy concerns regarding the sharing of
27 information regarding individuals listed on the registry or
28 seeking information from the registry.

29 (10) The contact between a farmer or authorized agent of
30 a farmer and an individual listed on the registry to achieve

1 the purposes described under section 2542 (relating to damage
2 caused by deer or other game), which shall include any
3 specific restrictions given by the farmer or authorized agent
4 of the farmer, including the days, times and locations that
5 the actions may be taken on the private land of the farmer.

6 (11) The termination of an agreement between a farmer or
7 authorized agent of a farmer and the individual listed on the
8 registry, at any time, by the farmer or authorized agent of
9 the farmer.

10 (12) Notice that a contractual obligation is not
11 automatically created merely because an individual is listed
12 on the registry or contacted as a result of being listed on
13 the registry.

14 (13) Notice that, if an agreement between a farmer or
15 authorized agent of a farmer and the individual listed on the
16 registry is reached, the individual becomes an authorized
17 agent of the farmer for the purposes of section 2542.

18 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.