
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 472

Session of
1977

INTRODUCED BY NOYE, KLINGAMAN, HALVERSON AND LETTERMAN,
MARCH 2, 1977

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAME AND FISHERIES, MARCH 2, 1977

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1225, No.316), entitled
2 "An act concerning game and other wild birds and wild
3 animals; and amending, revising, consolidating, and changing
4 the law relating thereto," further restricting the use of
5 spotlights, headlights or other artificial lights and
6 changing the penalty.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 704, act of June 3,
10 1937 (P.L.1225, No.316), known as "The Game Law," amended June
11 7, 1968 (P.L.148, No.83) and March 1, 1974 (P.L.87, No.22), is
12 amended to read:

13 Section 704. Unlawful Methods of Hunting.--* * *

14 (b) Unlawful Manner of Hunting Big Game

15 Except as otherwise provided in this act it is unlawful to
16 kill, or attempt to kill, any big game except through the use of
17 a gun propelling one all-lead or lead alloy or soft-nosed or
18 expanding bullet or ball, other than one fired from a .25
19 calibre or less rim-fire cartridge, at a single discharge, or
20 through the use of a bow and arrow, or to take an elk in any

1 manner except through the method known as still hunting.

2 It is unlawful for any person, or one or more of a group of
3 persons together, to throw or cast the rays of a spotlight,
4 headlight, or other artificial light on any highway or in any
5 field, woodland, or forest between midnight and sunrise, unless
6 otherwise excepted, or at any time [upon any big game] while
7 having in his or their possession or under their control a
8 firearm or other weapon or implement whereby any big game could
9 be killed, even though such animal be not shot at, injured or
10 killed. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply if it
11 shall be proven that the headlights of a motor vehicle operated
12 by the defendant or defendants, while traveling on a highway in
13 the usual way, cast a light upon such animal on or adjacent to
14 such highway, and there was no attempt or intent to locate such
15 animal.

16 * * *

17 Section 2. Clause (t) of section 731 of the act, added June
18 7, 1968 (P.L.148, No.83), is amended to read:

19 Section 731. Penalties.--Any person violating any of the
20 provisions of the sections of this article shall, upon
21 conviction, be sentenced to pay the following fines and costs of
22 prosecution for each offense.

23 * * *

24 (t) Whoever in an attempt to locate any big game, casts the
25 rays of a spotlight, headlight, or other artificial light upon
26 any field, woodland, forest, building, barn or other
27 outbuilding, between the hours of midnight and sunrise or at any
28 time while having in his or their possession or under their
29 control a firearm or other weapon or implement whereby any big
30 game could be killed, shall be guilty of an unlawful act and

1 upon conviction thereof in a summary proceeding shall be
2 sentenced to pay a fine of [ten dollars (\$10)] twenty-five
3 dollars (\$25), or in default thereof, to undergo imprisonment
4 for a period of five days.

5 * * *

6 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.