

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 961 Session of  
1991

INTRODUCED BY STABACK, FEE, GRUPPO, GODSHALL, DeWEESE, COY,  
NICKOL, FARGO, FAIRCHILD, NAILOR, STISH, NOYE, PESCI,  
S. H. SMITH, JAROLIN, DALEY, KRUSZEWSKI, McNALLY, BIRMELIN,  
BELFANTI, GEIST, KUKOVICH, GERLACH, ARMSTRONG, STEIGHNER,  
HECKLER, VEON, G. SNYDER, HASAY, McCALL, BOWLEY, BELARDI,  
MELIO, TIGUE, BARLEY, TRELLO, LEVDANSKY, BUSH, HANNA AND  
KING, APRIL 2, 1991

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAME AND FISHERIES, APRIL 2, 1991

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, further prohibiting interference with the lawful  
3 taking of wildlife or other activities permitted by the  
4 Pennsylvania Game Commission.

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

7 Section 1. Section 2302 of Title 34 of the Pennsylvania  
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 2302. Interference with lawful [hunting or trapping] taking  
10 of wildlife or other activities permitted by this  
11 title prohibited.

12 (a) General rule.--Except as otherwise provided in this  
13 title, it is unlawful [to :

14 (1) Interfere with the lawful hunting, trapping or  
15 taking of game or wildlife.

16 (2) Disturb any game or wildlife, or engage in any

1 activity or place any object or substance that may disturb or  
2 otherwise affect the behavior of any game or wildlife with  
3 the intent to hinder or prevent its lawful taking.

4 (3) Disturb or interfere with another person who is  
5 engaged in the lawful hunting, trapping or taking of game or  
6 wildlife or who is engaged in or preparing to hunt, trap or  
7 take any game or wildlife or prevent or hinder such person's  
8 enjoyment of the outdoors.

9 (4) Enter or remain upon public lands or upon private  
10 lands without permission of the owner or their agent, with  
11 intent to violate this section.

12 (5) Fail to obey the order of any officer whose duty it  
13 is to enforce any of the laws of this Commonwealth where such  
14 officer observes any conduct which violates this section, or  
15 has reasonable grounds to believe that any person intends to  
16 engage in such conduct.]

17 for another person at the location where the activity is taking  
18 place to intentionally obstruct or interfere with the lawful  
19 taking of wildlife or other activities permitted by this title.

20 (a.1) Activities which violate section.--A person violates  
21 this section when he intentionally or knowingly:

22 (1) drives or disturbs wildlife for the purpose of  
23 disrupting the lawful taking of wildlife where another person  
24 is engaged in the process of lawfully taking wildlife or  
25 other permitted activities;

26 (2) blocks, impedes or otherwise harasses another person  
27 who is engaged in the process of lawfully taking wildlife or  
28 other permitted activities;

29 (3) uses natural or artificial visual, aural, olfactory  
30 or physical stimuli to affect wildlife behavior in order to

hinder or prevent the lawful taking of wildlife or other permitted activities;

(4) creates or erects barriers with the intent to deny ingress or egress to areas where the lawful taking of wildlife or other permitted activities may occur;

(5) interjects himself into the line of fire;

(6) affects the condition or placement of personal or public property intended for use in the lawful taking of wildlife or other permitted activities in order to impair its usefulness or prevent its use;

(7) enter or remain upon public lands or upon private lands without permission of the owner or their agent, with intent to violate this section; or

(8) fails to obey the order of any officer whose duty it is to enforce any of the laws of this Commonwealth where such officer observes any conduct which violates this section or has reasonable grounds to believe that any person intends to engage in such conduct.

(b) Enforcement and recovery of damages.--The commission or any person who is lawfully engaged in the taking, hunting or trapping of game or wildlife who is directly affected by a violation of this section may bring an action to restrain conduct declared unlawful in this section and to recover damages.

(c) Exceptions.--The conduct declared unlawful in this section does not include any activities arising from lawful activity by other land uses, including farming, mining, forestry practices, recreation or any other activities when it is evident that such activities are not intended to violate this section.

(d) Penalties.--A violation of this section is a summary

1 offense of the second degree.

2 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1991.