THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2591 Session of 1996

INTRODUCED BY STABACK, B. SMITH, GRUITZA, BELARDI, SURRA, PHILLIPS, ROONEY, GODSHALL, McCALL, SHANER, ROBERTS, READSHAW, GEIST, TRELLO, COLAIZZO AND HANNA, MAY 2, 1996

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAME AND FISHERIES, MAY 2, 1996

AN ACT

- 1 Amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
- 2 Statutes, extending the training time and period for dogs
- 3 being trained to track certain game.
- 4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 5 hereby enacts as follows:
- 6 Section 1. Section 2382 of Title 34 of the Pennsylvania
- 7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:
- 8 § 2382. Training dogs on small game.
- 9 (a) General rule.--It is lawful to train a dog or dogs
- 10 during the hours from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset
- 11 from August 1 through the following March 31. Dogs being
- 12 trained, while on the scent of a rabbit, fox, coyote, raccoon,
- 13 opossum, skunk or snowshoe hare, may be trained at any time of
- 14 the day or night throughout the entire year. Persons who are
- 15 solely training dogs [during this period] and who comply with
- 16 the provisions of [subsection (b)] this section shall not be
- 17 required to have a hunting or furtaking license. The commission
- 18 may, by regulation, further restrict or relax the training

- 1 period for specific breeds of dogs.
- 2 (b) Restrictions.--
- 3 (1) Any dog being trained pursuant to subsection (a)
- 4 shall be accompanied by and under the control of the owner or
- 5 a handler.
- 6 (2) The owner or handler or any other person shall not
- 7 carry a bow and arrow or a firearm fired from the shoulder
- 8 while training a dog.
- 9 (3) No dog shall be permitted to kill or inflict any
- injury upon the pursued game or wildlife.
- 11 (c) [Raccoons and foxes.--Notwithstanding subsection (a), it
- 12 is lawful to train dogs on raccoons and foxes during any hour of
- 13 the day.
- 14 (d)] Sunday limitation.--It is unlawful to train dogs on
- 15 privately owned property on Sunday. This limitation shall not
- 16 apply to:
- 17 (1) National or State forest land.
- 18 (2) State game lands.
- 19 (3) Privately owned property when the consent of the
- 20 person in charge of the land is first obtained.
- 21 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.