

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 607 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY LAUGHLIN, ROBINSON AND BREWSTER, APRIL 27, 2021

REFERRED TO GAME AND FISHERIES, APRIL 27, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in hunting and furtaking, repealing provisions  
3 relating to hunting on Sunday prohibited and providing for  
4 hunting on Sunday.

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

7 Section 1. Section 2303 of Title 34 of the Pennsylvania  
8 Consolidated Statutes is repealed:

9 [§ 2303. Hunting on Sunday prohibited.]

10 (a) General rule.--Except as otherwise provided in this  
11 title, it is unlawful for any person to hunt for any furbearer  
12 or game on Sunday.

13 (b) Construction of section.--This section shall not be  
14 construed to prohibit:

15 (1) The training of dogs.

16 (2) The participation in dog trials as provided for in  
17 this title.

18 (3) The removal of lawfully taken game or wildlife from  
19 traps or the resetting of the traps on Sunday.

1 (b.1) Exceptions.--Subsection (a) shall not apply to:

2 (1) The hunting of foxes.

3 (2) The hunting of coyotes.

4 (3) Any hunting which occurs on noncommercial regulated  
5 hunting grounds holding a valid permit under section 2928(b)

6 (2) (relating to regulated hunting grounds permits).

7 (4) Hunting on three Sundays each calendar year, as  
8 follows:

9 (i) One day of Sunday hunting shall be instituted by  
10 the commission during the deer rifle season.

11 (ii) One day of Sunday hunting shall be instituted  
12 by the commission during the Statewide deer archery  
13 season.

14 (iii) One day of Sunday hunting as determined by the  
15 commission shall be instituted by the commission.

16 Authority to hunt on any Sunday instituted by the commission  
17 under this paragraph shall not apply to any person required  
18 to secure a hunting license who attempts to hunt on private  
19 land without obtaining written permission of the landowner,  
20 an agent of the landowner or lessee.

21 (c) Penalty.--A violation of this section is a summary  
22 offense of the fifth degree.]

23 Section 2. Title 34 is amended by adding a section to read:

24 § 2303.1. Hunting on Sunday.

25 (a) General rule.--The commission may institute Sunday  
26 hunting by regulation promulgated in accordance with section  
27 2102 (relating to regulations).

28 (b) Applicability.--It shall be lawful for a person to hunt  
29 for any furbearer or game on Sunday on and after the publication  
30 of the final regulation under subsection (a).

1 Section 3. This act shall take effect as follows:

2 (1) The repeal of 34 Pa.C.S. § 2303 shall take effect on  
3 the publication of regulations by the commission under 34  
4 Pa.C.S. § 2303.1.

5 (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect in 60  
6 days.