

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL
No. 1245 Session of
1985

INTRODUCED BY RICHARDSON, SAURMAN, HOWLETT, PRATT, BURD, TRELLO,
PISTELLA, SIRIANNI, JOHNSON, WOGAN AND SCHEETZ, MAY 29, 1985

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAME AND FISHERIES, MAY 29, 1985

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 providing for the
5 definition of "wildlife."

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

8 Section 1. Sections 417.2 and 418 of the act of June 3, 1937
9 (P.L.1225, No.316), known as The Game Law, amended November 23,
10 1983 (P.L.222, No.64), are amended to read:

11 Section 417.2. Permits to Deal in Wildlife.--The commission
12 may issue permits to persons, firms, associations or
13 corporations to act as wildlife dealers which shall authorize
14 the holder thereof to import into the Commonwealth, possess,
15 buy, sell, locate or find for a fee, barter, donate or otherwise
16 dispose of wildlife. A wildlife dealer shall mean any person who
17 imports into the Commonwealth, possesses, buys, sells, locates
18 or finds for a fee, barter, donates or otherwise disposes of
19 more than one bird or one animal classified as wildlife during

1 any calendar year. A wildlife dealer shall not include a public
2 zoological garden which receives governmental grants or
3 appropriations, or a private zoological park or garden which is
4 open to the public and which is accredited by the American
5 Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums, or any person,
6 firm, association or corporation who or which holds a menagerie
7 permit, providing the purchase or sale of wildlife or other
8 authorized transaction is conducted for the sole purpose of
9 maintaining stock for such menagerie, or any nationally
10 recognized circus.

11 Whenever used in this section, the word "wildlife" shall
12 mean, all bears, all coyotes, all lions, all tigers, all
13 leopards, all jaguars, all cheetahs, all cougars[, all wolves]
14 and any crossbreed of such animals which have similar
15 characteristics of the animals specified herein.

16 No permit provided for in this section shall be granted by
17 the commission until it is satisfied that the provision for
18 housing and caring for such wildlife, and for protecting the
19 public, are proper and adequate and in accordance with the
20 standard established by rules and regulations adopted by the
21 commission.

22 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, association or
23 corporation to import into the Commonwealth, possess, buy, sell,
24 locate or find for a fee, barter, donate, or otherwise dispose
25 of more than one bird or one animal classified as wildlife in
26 any calendar year without first securing a permit as required in
27 this section. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm,
28 association or corporation to release wildlife, as defined in
29 this section, into the wild.

30 In addition to the penalties hereinafter provided, the

1 director may, for any violation of the provisions of this
2 section or rules and regulations adopted thereunder, revoke or
3 suspend any permit and order the disposal of any wildlife held.

4 Section 418. Permits to Possess Wildlife.--The commission
5 may issue permits to persons to possess wildlife which shall
6 authorize the holder thereof to purchase, receive or possess
7 wildlife from any lawful source from within or outside of this
8 Commonwealth. Whenever used in this section, the word "wildlife"
9 shall mean all bears, all coyotes, all lions, all tigers, all
10 leopards, all jaguars, all cheetahs, all cougars[, all wolves]
11 and any crossbreed of such animals which have similar
12 characteristics of the animals specified herein. The provisions
13 of this section shall not include any public zoological garden
14 which receives government grants or appropriations, or any
15 private zoological park or garden which is open to the public
16 and which is accredited by the American Association of
17 Zoological Parks and Aquariums, any person, firm, association or
18 corporation which holds a menagerie permit, or any nationally
19 recognized circus.

20 No permit provided for in this section shall be granted by
21 the commission until it is satisfied that the provisions for
22 housing and caring for such wildlife and for protecting the
23 public are proper and adequate and in accordance with the
24 standards established by rules and regulations of the
25 commission.

26 It shall be unlawful for any person to possess, purchase or
27 receive wildlife under any circumstances without first securing
28 a permit as required in this section. It shall be unlawful for
29 any person to release wildlife as defined in this section into
30 the wild.

1 In addition to the penalties hereinafter provided, the
2 director may, for any violation of the provisions of this
3 section or rules and regulations adopted thereunder, revoke or
4 suspend any permit and order the disposal of any wildlife held.

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