

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2107 Session of 2024

INTRODUCED BY STEELE, PROBST, DELLOSO, GUENST, HILL-EVANS, KHAN, WAXMAN, STAMBAUGH, DALEY, FRIEL, SCOTT, D. WILLIAMS, PIELLI, MADSEN AND GREEN, MARCH 14, 2024

AS AMENDED ON SECOND CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 24, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, IN ENFORCEMENT, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR POWERS AND <--
3 DUTIES OF ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS; AND, in protection of
4 property and persons, providing for mitigation of damage and
5 for registry of responsible hunters.

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

8 ~~Section 1. Chapter 25 of Title 34 of the Pennsylvania~~ <--
9 ~~Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subchapter to read:~~

10 SECTION 1. SECTION 901 OF TITLE 34 OF THE PENNSYLVANIA <--
11 CONSOLIDATED STATUTES IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SUBSECTION TO READ:
12 § 901. POWERS AND DUTIES OF ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.

13 \* \* \*

14 (A.1) CITATION PROHIBITION.--ANY OFFICER WHOSE DUTY IT IS TO
15 ENFORCE THIS TITLE MAY NOT LIST ANY OFFICER'S HOME ADDRESS ON A
16 CITATION, SPECIAL PERMIT OR ANY OTHER OFFICIAL BUSINESS ISSUED
17 BY THE OFFICER.

18 \* \* \*

1 SECTION 2. CHAPTER 25 OF TITLE 34 IS AMENDED BY ADDING A  
2 SUBCHAPTER TO READ:

3 SUBCHAPTER C

4 MITIGATION OF DAMAGE

5 Sec.

6 2541. Definitions.

7 2542. Damage caused by deer or other game.

8 2543. Registry of responsible hunters.

9 § 2541. Definitions.

10 The following words and phrases when used in this subchapter  
11 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
12 context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 "Crops." As follows:

14 (1) Plants, including, but not limited to, ornamental  
15 and fruit trees, that are cultivated for sale, production,  
16 processing or subsistence.

17 (2) The term does not include wild plants.

18 "Registry." The registry of responsible hunters developed  
19 and implemented under section 2543(a) (relating to registry of  
20 responsible hunters).

21 § 2542. Damage caused by deer or other game.

22 (a) Permissible actions.--If a deer or other game is causing  
23 damage to crops, vegetables, livestock, poultry or beehives on  
24 the private land owned, operated or leased by a farmer, the  
25 farmer or an authorized agent of the farmer may, in accordance  
26 with other State law:

27 (1) Kill and dress the deer or other game on the private  
28 land.

29 (2) Contact the commission to report the killing and  
30 dressing of the deer or other game because of the damage on

1 the private land.

2 (3) Transport the carcass of the deer or other game to a  
3 licensed processor without waiting for an authorized agent of  
4 the commission to remove the deer or other game.

5 (b) Purpose.--The actions of the farmer or authorized agent  
6 of the farmer described under subsection (a)(1) and (3) shall be  
7 taken for the purpose of protecting crops, vegetables,  
8 livestock, poultry or beehives on the private land owned,  
9 operated or leased by the farmer and not for the purpose of food  
10 consumption by the household of the farmer or authorized agent  
11 of the farmer or of any other related benefit to the farmer or  
12 authorized agent of the farmer.

13 (c) Construction.--Nothing in this section shall be  
14 construed to:

15 (1) Limit the authority of the commission or provide an  
16 exclusive remedy for the killing, dressing or removal of deer  
17 or other game.

18 (2) Limit the actions normally taken by a licensed  
19 processor.

20 § 2543. Registry of responsible hunters.

21 (a) Development, implementation and purpose.--Within two  
22 years of the effective date of this subsection, the commission  
23 shall develop and implement a registry of responsible hunters to  
24 assist farmers with the killing and dressing of deer and other  
25 game causing damage on the private land of farmers.

26 (b) Considerations.--In developing and implementing the  
27 registry, the department shall address the following:

28 (1) How an individual who applies for a hunting license  
29 may, at the time of application, opt to be listed on the  
30 registry.

1           (2) How an individual with a hunting license may opt to  
2 be listed on the registry.

3           (3) The qualifications for an individual to be listed on  
4 the registry, which shall include:

5                 (i) The consent of the individual to be listed on  
6 the registry.

7                 (ii) The possession by the individual of a current  
8 hunting license of this Commonwealth.

9                 (iii) The lack of a record of any hunting violation  
10 within the past five years.

11           (4) How an individual listed on the registry may request  
12 removal from the registry at any time.

13           (5) The reasons for removal of an individual from the  
14 registry, which shall include the following circumstances:

15                 (i) The individual commits an offense under this  
16 title.

17                 (ii) The commission determines that the individual  
18 has a record of a hunting violation within the past five  
19 years.

20                 (iii) The hunting license of the individual has  
21 expired.

22           (6) How an individual with an expired hunting license  
23 may reapply to be listed on the registry at the time of  
24 application for a new hunting license or at any time after  
25 receiving a new hunting license, as prescribed by the  
26 commission.

27           (7) How to maintain the registry and update the registry  
28 on a regular basis.

29           (8) How to provide access to information on the  
30 registry, to facilitate the potential pairing of an

1 individual listed on the registry with a farmer or an  
2 authorized agent of a farmer in need of the services of the  
3 individual, which may include:

4 (i) Providing information, upon reasonable request,  
5 directly to the farmer or authorized agent of the farmer.

6 (ii) Providing information on the registry by  
7 electronic means through password-protected access, as  
8 prescribed by the commission.

9 (9) Privacy concerns regarding the sharing of  
10 information regarding individuals listed on the registry or  
11 seeking information from the registry.

12 (10) The contact between a farmer or authorized agent of  
13 a farmer and an individual listed on the registry to achieve  
14 the purposes described under section 2542 (relating to damage  
15 caused by deer or other game), which shall include any  
16 specific restrictions given by the farmer or authorized agent  
17 of the farmer, including the days, times and locations that  
18 the actions may be taken on the private land of the farmer.

19 (11) The termination of an agreement between a farmer or  
20 authorized agent of a farmer and the individual listed on the  
21 registry, at any time, by the farmer or authorized agent of  
22 the farmer.

23 (12) Notice that a contractual obligation is not  
24 automatically created merely because an individual is listed  
25 on the registry or contacted as a result of being listed on  
26 the registry.

27 (13) Notice that, if an agreement between a farmer or  
28 authorized agent of a farmer and the individual listed on the  
29 registry is reached, the individual becomes an authorized  
30 agent of the farmer for the purposes of section 2542.

1 Section 2 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.

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