HOUSE BILL 1618

By Richey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 70, relative to hunting where bait is present.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 70-4-113(a), is amended by deleting subsection (a) and substituting:

(a) Except as provided in this section, it is unlawful for a person to make use of a pitfall, deadfall, cage, snare, trap, net, baited hook, poison, chemical, explosive, set gun, spotlight, electric lights or torch, bait, which includes a grain, or mixture of ingredients used as or for food purposes, or other device for the purpose of killing, injuring, or capturing a bird or animal protected by the wildlife laws of this state.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 70-4-113, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

(d) It is not a violation of subsection (a) for a person to hunt on or over privately owned land where bait is present. A person shall comply with § 70-4-120 when seeking to hunt or hunting on or over land owned by another person.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.