

# HOUSE . . . . No. 551

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By Mr. Baker of Newton, petition of The Associated Committees for Wild Life Conservation that the barred owl and certain species of hawks be included within the birds which are protected by statute. Conservation.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-One.

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An Act to protect Certain Birds not now Protected by Statute.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Section seventy-seven of chapter one hundred  
2 thirty-one of the General Laws shall be amended by  
3 striking out from lines seven and eight the following  
4 words, "red-tailed hawk", "red-shouldered hawk",  
5 "duck hawk" and "barred owl", — so that the sec-  
6 tion shall read as follows:— Whoever, except as  
7 provided in section eighty-four, eighty-five, eighty-  
7 seven or ninety, hunts or has in his possession a wild  
9 or undomesticated bird except an English sparrow,  
10 crow blackbird, crow, jay, starling, birds not found  
11 wild within the commonwealth or the following named  
12 birds of prey, — sharp-shinned hawk, cooper's hawk,  
13 goshawk, pigeon hawk and great horned owl, — or  
14 wilfully destroys, disturbs or takes a nest or eggs of

15 any wild or undomesticated bird, except such as are  
16 not protected by this section, shall be punished by a  
17 fine of not less than twenty nor more than fifty dollars  
18 for each bird taken, killed or had in possession or for  
19 each nest or egg disturbed, destroyed or taken; but a  
20 person who has a certificate from the director that  
21 he is engaged in the scientific study of ornithology  
22 or is collecting in the interests of a scientific institu-  
23 tion may at any season take or kill, or take the nests  
24 or eggs of, a wild or undomesticated bird, except  
25 woodcock, ruffed grouse and quail; but this section  
26 shall not authorize a person to enter upon private  
27 grounds without the consent of the owner thereof  
28 for the purpose of taking nests or eggs or killing birds.



