

HOUSE No. 5530

Substituted by the House, on motion of Mr. Dwinell of Millbury, and as amended on motion of Mr. Colo of Athol, for a Bill further defining a steel leghold trap (House, No. 4845). February 26.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Five.

AN ACT DEFINING A STEEL LEGHOLD TRAP.

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 80A of chapter 131 of the General Laws, inserted by
2 section 1 of chapter 796 of the acts of 1974, is hereby amended by
3 striking out the first two sentences and inserting in place thereof
4 the following two sentences: — No person shall use, set, place or
5 maintain any steel jaw leghold trap, which has been defined by
6 the director as size 3 or above, on land for the capture of fur-
7 bearing mammals except in or under buildings on land owned,
8 leased or rented by him. A steel jaw leghold trap of any size may
9 be used for the capture of fur-bearing mammals, in water only, if
10 set in such a manner that all reasonable care is taken to insure
11 that the mammal dies by drowning in a minimum length of time.

12 Steel jaw leghold traps defined by the director as size #1 and #2
13 may be used in areas or places that are designated by the director
14 as having an excessive overpopulation of animals or animals that
15 are diseased. Such areas shall be so designated only after a
16 comprehensive and objective study by the director.

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