

Senate Bill No. 213—Senators Parks, Manendo, Spearman,
Segerblom; and Woodhouse (by request)

Joint Sponsors: Assemblymen Carlton, Ohrenschall;
Martin, Munford and Pierce

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to trapping; requiring the registration of each trap, snare or similar device used in the taking of wild mammals; providing that any information in the possession of the Department of Wildlife concerning the registration of a trap, snare or similar device is confidential; requiring the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations prescribing the frequency of required visits for a trap, snare or similar device; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law provides that any person who intentionally steals, takes and carries away personal goods or property of another person with a value of less than \$650 or who knowingly buys, receives, possesses or withholds such property is guilty of a misdemeanor. (NRS 205.240, 205.275) **Section 1.6** of this bill provides that a person who intentionally steals, takes and carries away traps, snares or similar devices with an aggregate value of less than \$650 or who knowingly buys, receives, possesses or withholds stolen traps, snares or similar devices with an aggregate value of less than \$650 is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Existing law requires a person who takes fur-bearing mammals by any legal method or unprotected mammals by trapping to obtain a trapping license. (NRS 503.454) Existing law also provides that each trap, snare or similar device used in the taking of wild mammals may bear a number registered with the Department of Wildlife or may be permanently marked with the name and address of the owner or trapper using it. If a trap is registered, the registration is permanent and the registrant must pay a one-time fee of \$10 at the time the first trap, snare or similar device is registered. (NRS 503.452) **Section 3** of this bill amends those provisions by: (1) requiring each trap, snare or similar device used in the taking of wild mammals to be registered with the Department; and (2) requiring each registered trap, snare or similar device to bear a number which is assigned by the Department and is affixed to the trap, snare or similar device in the manner specified by regulations adopted by the Board of Wildlife Commissioners.

Under existing law, every person who takes fur-bearing mammals by any legal method is required to obtain a trapping license. Existing law also makes it unlawful to move or disturb a lawfully-set trap. (NRS 503.454) **Section 4** of this bill: (1) requires every person who takes fur-bearing mammals by trap, snare or similar device to obtain a trapping license; and (2) clarifies that the prohibition against moving or disturbing a lawfully-set trap also includes any lawfully-set snare or similar device.

Existing law requires each person who sets or places a trap, snare or similar device to visit those devices at least once every 96 hours and requires the removal of trapped mammals from the devices. (NRS 503.570) **Section 5** of this bill requires the Commission to adopt regulations prescribing the frequency at which a



person who sets or places a trap, snare or similar device is required to visit the trap, snare or similar device, which must be at least once every 96 hours.

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 501 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 1.3 and 1.6 of this act.

Sec. 1.3. *“Trap” means a device that is designed, built or made to close upon or hold fast any portion of an animal.*

Sec. 1.6. 1. *Any person who intentionally steals, takes and carries away one or more traps, snares or similar devices owned by another person with an aggregate value of less than \$650 is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.*

2. Any person who buys, receives, possesses or withholds one or more traps, snares or similar devices owned by another person with an aggregate value of less than \$650:

(a) Knowing that the traps, snares or similar devices are stolen property; or

(b) Under such circumstances as should have caused a reasonable person to know that the traps, snares or similar devices are stolen property,

↪ is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Sec. 2. NRS 501.001 is hereby amended to read as follows:

501.001 As used in this title, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 501.003 to 501.097, inclusive, *and section 1.3 of this act* have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 3. NRS 503.452 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.452 *1. Each trap, snare or similar device used in the taking of wild mammals ~~may~~ must be registered with the Department before it is used. Each registered trap, snare or similar device must bear a number ~~registered with~~ which is assigned by the Department ~~for be permanently marked with the name and address of the owner or trapper using it. If a trap is registered, the~~ and is affixed to or marked on the trap, snare or similar device in the manner specified by regulations adopted by the Commission. The registration of a trap, snare or similar device is ~~permanent~~ valid until the trap, snare or similar device is sold or ownership of the trap, snare or similar device is otherwise transferred.*



2. A registration fee of \$10 for each registrant is payable only once ~~H~~ *by each person who registers a trap, snare or similar device. The fee must be paid* at the time the first trap, snare or similar device is registered.

3. *It is unlawful:*

(a) *For a person to whom a trap, snare or similar device is registered to allow another person to possess or use the trap, snare or similar device without providing to that person written authorization to possess or use the trap, snare or similar device.*

(b) *For a person to possess or use a trap, snare or similar device registered to another person without obtaining the written authorization required pursuant to paragraph (a). If a person obtains written authorization to possess or use a trap, snare or similar device pursuant to paragraph (a), the person shall ensure that the written authorization, together with his or her trapping license, is in his or her possession during any period in which he or she uses the trap, snare or similar device to take fur-bearing mammals.*

4. *A person to whom a trap, snare or similar device is registered pursuant to this section shall report any theft of the trap, snare or similar device to the Department as soon as it is practical to do so after the person discovers the theft.*

5. *Any information in the possession of the Department concerning the registration of a trap, snare or similar device is confidential and the Department shall not disclose that information unless required to do so by law or court order.*

Sec. 4. NRS 503.454 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.454 1. Every person who takes fur-bearing mammals by ~~any legal method~~ *trap, snare or similar device* or unprotected mammals by trapping or sells raw furs for profit shall procure a trapping license.

2. It is unlawful to remove or disturb the trap, *snare or similar device* of any holder of a trapping license while the trap, *snare or similar device* is being legally used by the holder on public land or on land where the holder has permission to trap.

Sec. 5. NRS 503.570 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.570 1. A person taking or causing to be taken wild mammals by means of traps, snares or ~~any other~~ *similar* devices which do not, or are not designed to, cause immediate death to the mammals, shall, if the traps, snares or *similar* devices are placed or set to take mammals, visit or cause to be visited ~~at least once each 96 hours~~ *each trap, snare or other similar device at a frequency specified in regulations adopted by the Commission pursuant to*



subsection 3 during all of the time the trap, snare or **similar** device is placed, set or used to take wild mammals, and remove therefrom any mammals caught therein.

2. The provisions of subsection 1 do not apply to employees of the State Department of Agriculture or the United States Department of Agriculture when acting in their official capacities.

3. *The Commission shall adopt regulations setting forth the frequency at which a person who takes or causes to be taken wild mammals by means of traps, snares or similar devices which do not, or are not designed to, cause immediate death to the mammals must visit a trap, snare or similar device. The regulations must require the person to visit a trap, snare or similar device at least once each 96 hours. In adopting the regulations, the Commission shall consider requiring a trap, snare or similar device placed in close proximity to a populated or heavily used area by persons to be visited more frequently than a trap, snare or similar device which is not placed in close proximity to such an area.*

Sec. 5.5. NRS 205.240 is hereby amended to read as follows:

205.240 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 205.220, 205.226, 205.228 and 475.105, **and section 1.6 of this act**, a person commits petit larceny if the person:

(a) Intentionally steals, takes and carries away, leads away or drives away:

(1) Personal goods or property, with a value of less than \$650, owned by another person;

(2) Bedding, furniture or other property, with a value of less than \$650, which the person, as a lodger, is to use in or with his or her lodging and which is owned by another person; or

(3) Real property, with a value of less than \$650, that the person has converted into personal property by severing it from real property owned by another person.

(b) Intentionally steals, takes and carries away, leads away, drives away or entices away one or more domesticated animals or domesticated birds, with an aggregate value of less than \$650, owned by another person.

2. Unless a greater penalty is provided pursuant to NRS 205.267, a person who commits petit larceny is guilty of a misdemeanor. In addition to any other penalty, the court shall order the person to pay restitution.

Sec. 5.6. NRS 205.275 is hereby amended to read as follows:

205.275 1. ~~FA~~ **Except as otherwise provided in section 1.6 of this act**, a person commits an offense involving stolen property if the person, for his or her own gain or to prevent the owner from



again possessing the owner's property, buys, receives, possesses or withholds property:

(a) Knowing that it is stolen property; or

(b) Under such circumstances as should have caused a reasonable person to know that it is stolen property.

2. A person who commits an offense involving stolen property in violation of subsection 1:

(a) If the value of the property is less than \$650, is guilty of a misdemeanor;

(b) If the value of the property is \$650 or more but less than \$3,500, is guilty of a category C felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130; or

(c) If the value of the property is \$3,500 or more or if the property is a firearm, is guilty of a category B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for a minimum term of not less than 1 year and a maximum term of not more than 10 years, and by a fine of not more than \$10,000.

3. In addition to any other penalty, the court shall order the person to pay restitution.

4. A person may be prosecuted and convicted pursuant to this section whether or not the principal is or has been prosecuted or convicted.

5. Possession by any person of three or more items of the same or a similar class or type of personal property on which a permanently affixed manufacturer's serial number or manufacturer's identification number has been removed, altered or defaced, is prima facie evidence that the person has violated this section.

6. For the purposes of this section, the value of the property involved shall be deemed to be the highest value attributable to the property by any reasonable standard.

7. As used in this section, "stolen property" means property that has been taken from its owner by larceny, robbery, burglary, embezzlement, theft or any other offense that is a crime against property, whether or not the person who committed the taking is or has been prosecuted or convicted for the offense.

Sec. 6. 1. This section, sections 1 to 2, inclusive, 4, 5.5 and 5.6 of this act become effective upon passage and approval.

2. Sections 3 and 5 of this act become effective upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act and on July 31, 2013, for all other purposes.

