

# SB3063



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB3063

Introduced 1/28/2026, by Sen. Linda Holmes

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

520 ILCS 5/2.40 new  
520 ILCS 5/3.5

from Ch. 61, par. 3.5

Amends the Wildlife Code. Provides that a person shall not organize, sponsor, promote, conduct, or participate in any contest, organized competition, tournament, or derby that has as its objective the taking of a fur-bearing mammal for cash, prizes, or other inducement. Provides an exception for field trials, certain wildlife damage control activities, and certain lawful hunting or trapping activities. Establishes penalties for violations.

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A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning wildlife.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Wildlife Code is amended by changing  
5 Section 3.5 and by adding 2.40 as follows:

6 (520 ILCS 5/2.40 new)

7 Sec. 2.40. Fur-bearing mammal killing contests prohibited.

8 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), a person shall  
9 not organize, sponsor, promote, conduct, or participate in any  
10 contest, organized competition, tournament, or derby that has  
11 as its objective the taking of a fur-bearing mammal, as  
12 defined in Section 1.2g, for cash, prizes, or other  
13 inducement.

14 (b) The prohibition in subsection (a) does not apply to:

15 (1) field trials permitted by the Department under  
16 Section 2.34;

17 (2) wildlife damage control activities authorized  
18 under a permit issued by the Department under Section 2.37  
19 as long as those activities do not take place during a  
20 contest, organized competition, tournament, or derby; or

21 (3) lawful hunting or trapping activities authorized  
22 under Section 2.30 as long as those activities do not take  
23 place during a contest, organized competition, tournament,

1           or derby.

2           (520 ILCS 5/3.5) (from Ch. 61, par. 3.5)

3           Sec. 3.5. Penalties; probation.

4           (a) Any person who violates any of the provisions of  
5 Section 2.36a, including administrative rules, shall be guilty  
6 of a Class 3 felony, except as otherwise provided in  
7 subsection (b) of this Section and subsection (a) of Section  
8 2.36a.

9           (b) Whenever any person who has not previously been  
10 convicted of, or placed on probation or court supervision for,  
11 any offense under Section 1.22, 2.36, or 2.36a, operating  
12 without a permit as prescribed in subsection (b) of Section  
13 2.37, or an offense under subsection (i) or (cc) of Section  
14 2.33, the court may, without entering a judgment and with the  
15 person's consent, sentence the person to probation for a  
16 violation of Section 2.36a.

17           (1) When a person is placed on probation, the court  
18 shall enter an order specifying a period of probation of  
19 24 months and shall defer further proceedings in the case  
20 until the conclusion of the period or until the filing of a  
21 petition alleging violation of a term or condition of  
22 probation.

23           (2) The conditions of probation shall be that the  
24 person:

25           (A) Not violate any criminal statute of any

1 jurisdiction.

2 (B) Perform no less than 30 hours of community  
3 service, provided community service is available in  
4 the jurisdiction and is funded and approved by the  
5 county board.

6 (3) The court may, in addition to other conditions:

7 (A) Require that the person make a report to and  
8 appear in person before or participate with the court  
9 or courts, person, or social service agency as  
10 directed by the court in the order of probation.

11 (B) Require that the person pay a fine and costs.

12 (C) Require that the person refrain from  
13 possessing a firearm or other dangerous weapon.

14 (D) Prohibit the person from associating with any  
15 person who is actively engaged in any of the  
16 activities regulated by the permits issued or  
17 privileges granted by the Department of Natural  
18 Resources.

19 (4) Upon violation of a term or condition of  
20 probation, the court may enter a judgment on its original  
21 finding of guilt and proceed as otherwise provided.

22 (5) Upon fulfillment of the terms and conditions of  
23 probation, the court shall discharge the person and  
24 dismiss the proceedings against the person.

25 (6) A disposition of probation is considered to be a  
26 conviction for the purposes of imposing the conditions of

1           probation, for appeal, and for administrative revocation  
2           and suspension of licenses and privileges; however,  
3           discharge and dismissal under this Section is not a  
4           conviction for purposes of disqualification or  
5           disabilities imposed by law upon conviction of a crime.

6           (7) Discharge and dismissal under this Section may  
7           occur only once with respect to any person.

8           (8) If a person is convicted of an offense under this  
9           Act within 5 years subsequent to a discharge and dismissal  
10          under this Section, the discharge and dismissal under this  
11          Section shall be admissible in the sentencing proceeding  
12          for that conviction as a factor in aggravation.

13          (9) The Circuit Clerk shall notify the Illinois State  
14          Police of all persons convicted of or placed under  
15          probation for violations of Section 2.36a.

16          (c) Any person who violates any of the provisions of  
17          Sections 2.9, 2.11, 2.16, 2.18, 2.24, 2.25, 2.26, 2.29, 2.30,  
18          2.31, 2.32, 2.33 (except subsections (g), (i), (o), (p), (y),  
19          and (cc)), 2.33-1, 2.33a, 3.3, 3.4, 3.11 through 3.16, 3.19,  
20          3.20, 3.21 (except subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (f.5),  
21          (g), (h), and (i)), 3.24, 3.25, and 3.26 (except subsection  
22          (f)), including administrative rules, shall be guilty of a  
23          Class B misdemeanor.

24          A person who violates Section 2.33b by using any computer  
25          software or service to remotely control a weapon that takes  
26          wildlife by remote operation is guilty of a Class B

1 misdemeanor. A person who violates Section 2.33b by  
2 facilitating a violation of Section 2.33b, including an owner  
3 of land in which remote control hunting occurs, a computer  
4 programmer who designs a program or software to facilitate  
5 remote control hunting, or a person who provides weapons or  
6 equipment to facilitate remote control hunting, is guilty of a  
7 Class A misdemeanor.

8 Any person who violates any of the provisions of Sections  
9 1.22, 2.2a, 2.3, 2.4, 2.36, and 2.38, including administrative  
10 rules, shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor. Any second or  
11 subsequent violations of Sections 2.4 and 2.36 shall be a  
12 Class 4 felony.

13 Any person who violates any of the provisions of this Act,  
14 including administrative rules, during such period when the  
15 person's license, privileges, or permit is revoked or denied  
16 by virtue of Section 3.36, shall be guilty of a Class A  
17 misdemeanor.

18 Any person who violates subsection (g), (i), (o), (p),  
19 (y), or (cc) of Section 2.33 or Section 2.40 shall be guilty of  
20 a Class A misdemeanor and subject to a fine of no less than  
21 \$500 and no more than \$5,000 in addition to other statutory  
22 penalties.

23 Any person who operates without a permit in violation of  
24 subsection (b) of Section 2.37 is guilty of a Class A  
25 misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not less than \$500. Any  
26 other violation of subsection (b) of Section 2.37, including

1 administrative rules, is a Class B misdemeanor.

2 Any person who violates any other of the provisions of  
3 this Act including administrative rules, unless otherwise  
4 stated, shall be guilty of a petty offense. Offenses committed  
5 by minors under the direct control or with the consent of a  
6 parent or guardian may subject the parent or guardian to the  
7 penalties prescribed in this Section.

8 In addition to any fines imposed pursuant to the  
9 provisions of this Section or as otherwise provided in this  
10 Act, any person found guilty of unlawfully taking or  
11 possessing any species protected by this Act shall be assessed  
12 a civil penalty for such species in accordance with the values  
13 prescribed in Section 2.36a of this Act. This civil penalty  
14 shall be imposed by the Circuit Court for the county within  
15 which the offense was committed at the time of the conviction.  
16 Any person found guilty of violating subsection (b) of Section  
17 2.37 is subject to an additional civil penalty of up to \$1,500.  
18 All penalties provided for in this Section shall be remitted  
19 to the Department in accordance with the same provisions  
20 provided for in Section 1.18 of this Act, except that civil  
21 penalties collected for violation of subsection (b) of Section  
22 2.37 shall be remitted to the Department and allocated as  
23 follows:

24 (1) 60% to the Conservation Police Operations  
25 Assistance Fund; and

26 (2) 40% to the Illinois Habitat Fund.

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1 (Source: P.A. 103-37, eff. 6-9-23; 103-605, eff. 7-1-24;  
2 104-325, eff. 1-1-26.)