

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 2.33a as follows:

6 (520 ILCS 5/2.33a) (from Ch. 61, par. 2.33a)

7 Sec. 2.33a. Trapping.

8 (a) It is unlawful to fail to visit and remove all animals  
9 from traps staked out, set, used, tended, placed or maintained  
10 at least once each calendar day.

11 (b) It is unlawful for any person to place, set, use, or  
12 maintain a foothold ~~leghold~~ trap or one of similar  
13 construction on land, that has a jaw spread of larger than 6  
14 1/2 inches (16.6 CM), or a body-gripping trap or one of similar  
15 construction having a jaw spread larger than 7 inches (17.8  
16 CM) on a side if square and 8 inches (20.4 CM) if round. The  
17 diameter of traps shall be measured from the inside edges of  
18 the outer most portion of the jaws of the trap.

19 (c) It is unlawful for any person to place, set, use, or  
20 maintain a foothold ~~leghold~~ trap or one of similar  
21 construction in water, that has a jaw spread of larger than 8  
22 1/2 inches (21.59 CM) ~~7 1/2 inches (19.1 CM)~~, or a  
23 body-gripping trap or one of similar construction having a jaw

1 spread larger than 10 inches (25.4 CM) on a side if square and  
2 12 inches (30.5 CM) if round. The diameter of traps shall be  
3 measured from the inside edges of the outer most portion of the  
4 jaws of the trap perpendicular to the hinges or frame at the  
5 widest point.

6 (d) It is unlawful to use any trap with saw-toothed,  
7 spiked, or toothed jaws.

8 (e) It is unlawful to destroy, disturb or in any manner  
9 interfere with dams, lodges, burrows or feed beds of beaver  
10 while trapping for beaver or to set a trap inside a muskrat  
11 house or beaver lodge, except that this shall not apply to  
12 individuals who are acting pursuant to the provisions of  
13 Section 2.37 or as provided for by administrative rule.

14 (f) It is unlawful to trap beaver or river otter with: (1)  
15 a foothold ~~leghold~~ trap or one of similar construction having  
16 an inside ~~a~~ jaw spread of less than 5 1/2 inches (13.9 CM) or  
17 more than 8 1/2 inches (21.59 CM) ~~7 1/2 inches (19.1 CM)~~, or (2)  
18 a body-gripping trap or one of similar construction having a  
19 jaw spread of less than 7 inches (17.7 CM) or more than 10  
20 inches (25.4 CM) on a side if square and 12 inches (30.5 CM) if  
21 round, except that these restrictions shall not apply during  
22 the open season for trapping raccoons. The diameter of traps  
23 shall be measured from the inside edges of the outer most  
24 portion of the jaws of the trap perpendicular to the hinges or  
25 frame at the widest point.

26 (g) It is unlawful to set traps closer than 10 feet (3.05

1 M) from any hole or den which may be occupied by a game mammal  
2 or fur-bearing mammal except that this restriction shall not  
3 apply to water sets.

4 (h) It is unlawful to trap or attempt to trap any  
5 fur-bearing mammal with any colony, cage, box, or stove-pipe  
6 trap designed to take more than one mammal at a single setting.

7 (i) It is unlawful for any person to set or place any trap  
8 designed to take any fur-bearing mammal protected by this Act  
9 during the closed trapping season. Proof that any trap was  
10 placed during the closed trapping season shall be deemed prima  
11 facie evidence of a violation of this provision.

12 (j) It is unlawful to place, set, or maintain any foothold  
13 ~~leghold~~ trap or one of similar construction within thirty (30)  
14 feet (9.14 m) of bait placed in such a manner or position that  
15 it is not completely covered and concealed from sight, except  
16 that this shall not apply to underwater sets. Bait shall mean  
17 and include any bait composed of mammal, bird, or fish flesh,  
18 fur, hide, entrails or feathers.

19 (k) (Blank).

20 (l) It is unlawful for any person to place, set, use or  
21 maintain a snare trap or one of similar construction in water,  
22 that has a loop diameter exceeding 15 inches (38.1 CM) or a  
23 cable or wire diameter of more than 1/8 inch (3.2 MM) or less  
24 than 5/64 inch (2.0 MM), that is constructed of stainless  
25 steel metal cable or wire, and that does not have a mechanical  
26 lock, anchor swivel and stop device to prevent the mechanical

1 lock from closing the noose loop to a diameter of less than 2  
2 1/2 inches (6.4 CM).

3 (m) It is unlawful to trap muskrat or mink with (1) a  
4 foothold ~~leghold~~ trap or one of similar construction or (2) a  
5 body-gripping trap or one of similar construction unless the  
6 body-gripping trap or similar trap is completely submerged  
7 underwater when set. These restrictions shall not apply during  
8 the open season for trapping raccoons.

9 (Source: P.A. 103-37, eff. 6-9-23.)

10 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
11 becoming law.