



H.191, An Act Related to Trapping

Every year in Vermont, traps injure, maim & kill targeted animals like bobcats & otters, as well as non-targeted animals like raptors & people's pets, as seen here.

H.191 restricts the use of leghold, drowning & body-crushing kill traps.

What H.191 Does:

- Prohibits the recreational trapping of ***furbearing animals** (According to VT Fish & Wildlife's 2022 survey, 68% of Vermonters oppose recreational trapping)
 - Per UVM's Center for Rural Studies 2017 poll, 75% of Vermonters want leghold and body-crushing kill traps banned
- Ends commerce in fur from trapped animals—According to VT Fish & Wildlife's 2022 survey, 62% of Vermonters oppose trapping for fur and clothing
- Ends the common practice of bludgeoning, strangling, drowning and other inhumane methods of killing trapped furbearers
- Mandates reporting of all furbearers trapped & killed
- Requires training & permitting for nuisance wildlife control operators
- Requires taking practicable, non-lethal measures to prevent recurrence of damage from furbearing animals (e.g. installing water control devices to address beaver damage)

What H.191 Does Not Do:

- DOES NOT prevent farmers from trapping to protect their property, crops or animals
- DOES NOT prevent landowners from trapping to protect their property or animals from damage
- DOES NOT prevent state, federal, or municipal government officials to trap when necessary to address an imminent public health or safety threat or an imminent threat to property
- DOES NOT prevent state, federal, or municipal government officials to trap animals when necessary for conservation work to protect threatened or endangered species.
- DOES NOT stop your ability to hire somebody to trap a nuisance animal on your property
- DOES NOT impact Vermonters' ability to trap non-furbearer species such as mice, rats, groundhogs etc.

****Furbearers: beaver, otter, mink, raccoon, fisher, grey fox, red fox, skunk, muskrat, bobcat, coyote, weasel, opossum***

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