

SENATE BILL 822

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71r2713

By: **Senator Britt**

Introduced and read first time: February 16, 2007

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Steel Jawed Leghold Traps – Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from using, setting, placing, or maintaining a
4 steel jaw leghold trap for the purpose of trapping an animal; providing for the
5 application of this Act; and generally relating to trapping and wildlife.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – Natural Resources
8 Section 10–410(o) and (p)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article – Natural Resources**

14 10–410.

15 (o) (1) [In Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince
16 George’s counties, a] **A** person may not use, set, place, or maintain any steel jaw
17 leghold trap [on land. The steel jaw leghold trap may be used for the capture of
18 fur-bearing mammals in water only] **FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRAPPING AN ANIMAL.**

19 (2) This subsection does not apply to[:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) Traps set on farmland by the owner of the farmland, by the
 2 owner's agent or tenant, owner's lessee, or by any member of the owner's or tenant's
 3 immediate family who resides on the farmland; or

4 (ii) Traps] **TRAPS** set by an authorized agent of the Maryland
 5 Forest, Park and Wildlife Service who exercises the agent's duties for wildlife control
 6 under guidelines established by the Department.

7 (p) (1) (i) "Snare trap" means a device made of wire, synthetic cord, or
 8 other material that:

9 1. Is in the form of a noose with a slipknot, stop, swivel,
 10 or eyelet holes; and

11 2. Is designed or set with the intent of capturing an
 12 animal by the neck.

13 (ii) "Snare trap" includes:

14 1. A pole snare;

15 2. A hanging snare; and

16 3. A neck snare.

17 (2) [(i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, in
 18 Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Cecil, Harford, Montgomery, and Prince George's
 19 counties, a] **A** person may not use, sell, possess, set, place, or maintain a snare trap.

20 [(ii) In Anne Arundel County, from July 1, 1990 through June
 21 30, 1992, a person may sell or possess a snare trap.]

22 **(3) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A SNARE TRAP THAT:**

23 **(I) IS INTENDED TO CAPTURE AN ANIMAL BY THE FOOT OR**
 24 **LEG;**

25 **(II) HAS TUBING OR SIMILAR COATING COVERING THE**
 26 **SNARE CABLE;**

1 **(III) HAS A MEANS OF PREVENTING THE SNARE LOOP FROM**
2 **STRANGLING THE LIMB OF THE ANIMAL;**

3 **(IV) PREVENTS THE LOSS OF CIRCULATION TO THE**
4 **TRAPPED LIMB; AND**

5 **(V) HAS FOOT SNARES THAT MAY NOT TIGHTEN**
6 **INDEFINITELY.**

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 October 1, 2007.