

# HOUSE BILL 831

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By: **Montgomery County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2009

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Montgomery County - Steel Jaw Leghold or Body-Gripping Traps -**  
3 **Prohibition**

4 **MC 922-09**

5 FOR the purpose of expanding the application of the prohibition against the use,  
6 setting, placement, or maintenance of a steel jaw leghold or body-gripping trap  
7 in Montgomery County; making a certain technical correction; making a  
8 stylistic change; and generally relating to the steel jaw leghold or body-gripping  
9 trap prohibition in Montgomery County.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article - Natural Resources  
12 Section 10-410(o)  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

15 BY adding to  
16 Article - Natural Resources  
17 Section 10-410(o-1)  
18 Annotated Code of Maryland  
19 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

22 **Article - Natural Resources**

23 10-410.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           (o)   (1)   In Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, [Montgomery,] and Prince  
2 George's counties, a person may not use, set, place, or maintain any steel jaw leghold  
3 trap on land. The steel jaw leghold trap may be used for the capture of fur-bearing  
4 mammals in water only.

5                   (2)   This subsection does not apply to:

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

9                           (ii)   Traps set by an authorized agent of the [Maryland Forest,  
10 Park and Wildlife Service] **DEPARTMENT** who exercises the [agent's] duties **OF THE**  
11 **AGENT** for wildlife control under guidelines established by the Department.

12                   **(O-1) (1)   IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, A PERSON MAY NOT USE, SET,**  
13 **PLACE, OR MAINTAIN A STEEL JAW LEGHOLD OR BODY-GRIPPING TRAP.**

14                           **(2)   THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A TRAP SET BY AN**  
15 **AUTHORIZED AGENT OF THE DEPARTMENT WHO EXERCISES THE DUTIES OF THE**  
16 **AGENT FOR WILDLIFE CONTROL UNDER GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY THE**  
17 **DEPARTMENT.**

18                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
19 July 1, 2009.