

2024 -- H 7294 SUBSTITUTE A

LC004555/SUB A

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

A N A C T

RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE -- HUNTING AND HUNTING SAFETY -- CAPTIVE  
HUNTING PROHIBITED

Introduced By: Representatives Slater, Diaz, Bennett, and O'Brien

Date Introduced: January 26, 2024

Referred To: House Environment and Natural Resources

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 20-13 of the General Laws entitled "Hunting and Hunting Safety" is  
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **20-13-18. Captive hunting prohibited.**

4 (a) As used in this section, the term "captive hunting" means a hunt that occurs within a  
5 structure designed to restrict the free movement of animals created by the use of fences, man-made  
6 structures and/or natural barriers, including, but not limited to, private lands set up as hunting or  
7 shooting preserves or game ranches, wherein the animal is restricted from escaping or fleeing from  
8 the confined area during the hunt.

9 (b) No species of animal whether domestic or wild, whether exotic to the state or naturally  
10 occurring in the state, may be imported into the state or released on any property within the state  
11 for purposes of conducting captive hunting.

12 (c) No native or domestic species of the state shall be intentionally or unintentionally  
13 captured or restricted of free movement by the use of fences, man-made structures and/or natural  
14 barriers for the purpose of conducting captive hunting.

15 (d) The term captive hunting shall not apply to the release of domestic game birds for  
16 hunting, whether on public property or on private property properly licensed by the department of  
17 environmental management ("department") as a shooting preserve, or to field trials conducted in  
18 accordance with the provisions of this title and properly licensed by the department.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE -- HUNTING AND HUNTING SAFETY -- CAPTIVE  
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1           This act would prohibit captive hunting for domestic or wild animals wherein the animal  
2 is restricted from escaping or fleeing from the confined area during the hunt. This act would not  
3 prohibit the release of domestic game birds for hunting on licensed shooting preserves.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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