

UAPPEAL

EXOTIC ANIMAL LEGISLATION THAT BECAME LAW IN 2018

STATE	BILL/ACT	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE	BECAME LAW
ALABAMA	SB 112 Act 2018-162	Conservation and Natural Resources, hunting and fishing licenses, game breeder's licenses, issuance, further provided for, penalties, criminal penalties applicable only for intentional violations	6/1/18	Enacted
AFFECTED: Game breeders SPECIES: Game CLASSIFICATION: Positive – Requires license issuance to those qualified				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department is now required to issue an annual game breeders license to those properly accredited if: 1) they pass inspection and 2) had no license revoked after 5/1/06 nor been convicted of illegally importing a forbidden animal (prior law just gave authority to issue one) Clarifies that it is the license fees listed in that section that are based on the animals on hand as of the prior April 1 The penalty is now changed to apply only to those who knowingly violated the game breeder license code and rules Willfully failing to get a license or falsifying records is now a penalty 				
ALABAMA	AGENCY RULE 220-2-.138	Licensed Game Breeder	3/22/18	Adopted 2/5/18
AFFECTED: Game Breeder SPECIES: Game CLASSIFICATION: License requirement change				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All inventory records (except for initial records) for game breeder must now be sent through the electronic database Inventory records must now include transports, releases and transfers The department is allowed to conduct inspections Requires fawn ear tags Licensees are now given 10 days to recapture escaped deer and may be granted an additional 10 days by the Department A transport number is now required to transport game animals 				
CONNECTICUT	HB 5354 Act 18-114	AN ACT CONCERNING SNAPPING TURTLES AND RED-EARED SLIDER TURTLES.	10/1/18	Signed into law 5/23/18
AFFECTED: Importers, buyers, sellers, exchangers, owners SPECIES: Red-eared slider turtles & snapping turtles CLASSIFICATION: BAN – Import, Purchase, Sale, Exchange, Possession, Import, Release				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removes the exemption of snapping turtles from the regulation of the Department which essentially bans their buying, selling, exchanging and possession unless the Department adopts rules allowing it The import of red-eared slider turtles into the state and release upon lands or waters in the state is now banned The exceptions are 1) red-eared sliders used by any educational or scientific institution and 2) buying, selling, exchanging or possessing red-eared slider turtles with distinctive aberrant color patterns if seller keeps records of all buyer names and addresses and doesn't release the turtles 				

FLORIDA	SB 168 Chapter 2018-82	Nonnative Animals	7/1/18	Signed into law on 3/23/18
<p>AFFECTED: None (originally affected pet dealers)</p> <p>SPECIES: Priority invasive species: red lionfish, common lionfish, tegu, Burmese python, reticulated python, Northern African python, Southern African python, amethystine, Nile monitor, conditional or prohibited reptiles</p> <p>CLASSIFICATION: Manages wild invasive species</p> <p>Creates pilot program to manage “priority invasive species” on public lands and waters, which shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examining benefits of using private contractors to slow, contain and eradicate such species • Entering into contracts to capture or destroy such species (must get permission from landowner to hunt on areas not owned by state) • Document all captures and disposals with location found and photograph • Filing a report of its findings with the governor by 1/1/2021 				
LOUISIANA	HB 197 Act 67	Prohibits the importation of live cervid	8/1/18	Signed into law 5/10/18
<p>AFFECTED: Importers</p> <p>SPECIES: Exotic deer and cervids, antelope, elk, farm-raised white tail deer</p> <p>CLASSIFICATION: BAN - Import</p> <p>Now bans the import of live cervid from outside the state (Class 4 violation) with the exception of exotic cervid regulated by the Department of Agriculture</p>				
LOUISIANA	HB 226 Act 681	Prohibits the transportation of live feral swine	8/1/18	Signed into law 5/30/18
<p>AFFECTED: Transporters</p> <p>SPECIES: Feral swine</p> <p>CLASSIFICATION: REGISTRATION – Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transporters of feral swine are now required to register as a feral swine transporter under the Board of Animal Health except for Uncle Earl's Hog Dog Trials • Penalty: up to \$900 and/or 6 months imprisonment 				
MARYLAND	SB 89 Chapter 60	Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Zone Advisory Commission and Captive Wildlife Advisory Committee - Repeal	10/1/18	Signed into law 4/10/18
<p>Repealed two unused committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Zone Advisory Commission • Captive Wildlife Advisory Committee 				

TENNESSEE	SB 2098 Chapter 652	As enacted, authorizes a person who possesses a valid wildlife rehabilitation permit issued by the agency to receive skunks from the wild for the purposes of rehabilitation and release only.	Immediately	Signed into law 4/9/18
AFFECTS: Wildlife Rehabilitators SPECIES: Skunks CLASSIFICATION: Legalizes Activity				
Allows wildlife rehabilitators to receive skunks from the wild for rehabilitation and release only				
VERMONT	H 636	An act relating to miscellaneous fish and wildlife subjects	Immediately 7/1/18 1/1/19 1/1/20	Became law w/o signature 5/22/18
<p>Makes various changes to the wildlife code with the most significant being (7/1/18):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport of wild animals into, through or within the state now requires authorization from the Commissioner or a designee • The Department is now authorized to dispose of unlawfully possessed wildlife as it sees best (previously just allowed to dispose of unlawfully imported wildlife) • All imports must comply with the laws of country, state or province of origin • It is now illegal to place Vermont tags on wildlife taken outside the state • Big game taken outside the state may not be reported <p>Other Changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone who incidentally traps a dog or cat must report it to fish and wildlife or the Department within 24 hours of discovery, which must be recorded by the Department (1/1/19) • Allows Commissioner to collect data to manage fish and wildlife, which may be designated as confidential and exempted under Public Records Act to prevent harm to a species or habitat (7/1/18) • Extends Secretary's authority to collect property interest to all interests acquired under 6303(a) (7/1/18) • Allows Secretary to convey land under Department for resolving trespass issues, boundary line adjustments, right-of-way and deed corrections, and acquiring new lands for conservation and public recreation if advantageous to state (7/1/18) • Allows Commissioner to establish lottery applications (Immediately) • Includes federal migratory waterfowl stamp as stamp for migratory wildfowl stamp program and clarify the section applies to the state stamp (7/1/18) • Allows game warden to retain possession of firearms, jacks, lights, motor vehicles, and devices collected from taking big game out of season, big game unlawfully possessed, sold, or transported, taking animal from motor-controlled vehicle, and taking wildlife during license suspension (7/1/18) • Removes violation of rules from fish and wildlife violation (7/1/18) • Crossbows must now be exhibited to enforcement officer upon demand if used within right-of-way of public highway (7/1/18) • Valid trapping license now needed for those who are compensated to trap rabbits or fur-bearing animals on another's property to protect such property who may possess pelt if Commissioner contacted within 84 hours and pelt is held (1/1/20) • Excludes domestic fowl and domestic pets (domesticated dogs, domesticated cats, domesticated ferrets, psittacine birds, or any domesticated animal) from definition of wild animals (1/1/19) 				

- No person may hold or participate in a coyote hunting competition with \$400-1000 fine for 1st offense and \$2000-4000 for subsequent offense PLUS 10 points on hunting license for participating and 20 points for holding one (1/1/19)
- Requires Department to conduct review of potential criminal and civil charges for all fish and wildlife violations and submit a report recommending changes by 1/15/19 with the process used and basis for such changes (7/1/18)