

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-SECOND SESSION**

S.F. No. 1543

(SENATE AUTHORS: INGEBRIGTSEN, Eichorn, Johnson, Utke and Rarick)

DATE
03/01/2021

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Introduction and first reading
Referred to Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to natural resources; providing for taking nuisance bear by wildlife control
1.3 operators; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 97B.415.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 97B.415, is amended to read:

1.6 **97B.415 TAKING BEAR TO PROTECT PROPERTY; SPECIAL PERMIT FOR**
1.7 **TAKING NUISANCE BEAR.**

1.8 (a) A person may take a bear at any time to protect the person's property. The person
1.9 must report the bear taken to a conservation officer within 48 hours. The bear may be
1.10 disposed of as prescribed by the commissioner.

1.11 (b) The commissioner must issue a bear control special permit according to section
1.12 97A.401 for 12 or more wildlife control operators to take nuisance bear by live trapping
1.13 and relocating the bear. When a bear is trapped and released, an enforcement officer or a
1.14 wildlife manager may approve the release location. The commissioner must provide specific
1.15 training to wildlife control operators who are issued a permit under this paragraph, including
1.16 a refresher course every five years. The commissioner may not charge a fee for the bear
1.17 control special permit or training. A wildlife control operator with a special permit issued
1.18 under this paragraph may use remote surveillance equipment to monitor live traps.