

---

---

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 443—ASSEMBLYWOMAN SWANK

MARCH 27, 2017

---

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources,  
Agriculture, and Mining

SUMMARY—Prohibits the Board of Wildlife Commissioners from adopting regulations which authorize a person to hunt black bears with a dog. (BDR 45-1052)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Increases or Newly Provides for Term of Imprisonment in County or City Jail or Detention Facility.  
Effect on the State: Yes.

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

---

---

AN ACT relating to wildlife; prohibiting the Board of Wildlife Commissioners from adopting regulations which authorize a person to hunt black bears with a dog of any breed; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 Existing law prohibits, unless otherwise specified in regulations adopted by the  
2 Board of Wildlife Commissioners, hunting of any big game mammal, other than a  
3 mountain lion, with a dog of any breed. A violation of this prohibition is a  
4 misdemeanor. (NRS 501.385, 503.150) Existing regulations adopted by the  
5 Commission define the term “big game mammal” to include a black bear and make  
6 it unlawful to hunt, chase or pursue any black bear with a dog except: (1) during the  
7 open season; (2) in an open management area; and (3) under the authority of a  
8 hunting license and black bear tag. (NAC 502.020, 503.147) This bill prohibits the  
9 Commission from adopting regulations which authorize a person to hunt black  
10 bears with a dog of any breed.

---

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 503.150 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2 503.150 1. Unless otherwise specified by Commission  
3 regulation, it is unlawful to hunt:



\* A B 4 4 3 \*

1 (a) Any game bird or game mammal with any gun capable of  
2 firing more than one round with one continuous pull of the trigger,  
3 or with any full steel, full steel core, full metal jacket, tracer or  
4 incendiary bullet or shell, or any shotgun larger than number 10  
5 gauge.

6 (b) Big game mammals in any manner other than with a rifle,  
7 held in the hand, that exerts at least 1,000 foot-pounds of energy at  
8 100 yards, or with a longbow and arrow which meet the  
9 specifications established by Commission regulation.

10 (c) Small game mammals in any manner other than with a  
11 handgun, shotgun, rifle, longbow and arrow or by means of  
12 falconry.

13 (d) Game birds with any rifle or handgun, or in any manner  
14 other than with a shotgun held in the hand, with a longbow and  
15 arrow or by means of falconry.

16 (e) Migratory game birds with any shotgun capable of holding  
17 more than three shells.

18 (f) Any game bird or game mammal with the aid of any artificial  
19 light.

20 (g) Any big game mammal, except mountain lions, with a dog  
21 of any breed. *The Commission shall not adopt regulations*  
22 *authorizing a person to hunt black bears with a dog of any breed.*

23 2. A person who is hunting during any period of an open  
24 season during which hunting is restricted to the use of only archery  
25 equipment or a muzzle-loading firearm:

26 (a) May carry for self-defense a handgun that:

- 27 (1) Has a barrel length of less than 8 inches; and
- 28 (2) Does not have a telescopic sight.

29 (b) May not use the handgun carried pursuant to paragraph (a) to  
30 hunt any wildlife.

31 3. Nothing in this section prohibits the use of dogs in the  
32 hunting of game birds or small game mammals.

33 **Sec. 2.** Any regulations adopted by the Board of Wildlife  
34 Commissioners which authorize a person to hunt black bears with a  
35 dog are void. The Legislative Counsel shall remove those  
36 regulations from the Nevada Administrative Code as soon as  
37 practicable after January 1, 2018.

38 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective:

39 1. Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting  
40 regulations and performing any other administrative tasks that are  
41 necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

42 2. On January 1, 2018, for all other purposes.

