

SENATE BILL NO. 487—COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

MARCH 25, 2019

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

SUMMARY—Makes it unlawful to conduct or participate in certain competitions in which coyotes are taken. (BDR 45-1156)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No. Effect on the State: Yes.

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

AN ACT relating to coyotes; making it unlawful to conduct or participate in competitions in which coyotes are taken; requiring a person to transport a coyote that is injured during the course of such a competition to a veterinarian under certain circumstances; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law: (1) requires the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to classify all
2 wild mammals in this State as game mammals, fur-bearing mammals, protected
3 mammals or unprotected mammals; and (2) authorizes the Commission to adopt
4 regulations setting forth the species of wildlife which may be hunted without a
5 license. (NRS 501.110, 502.010) Pursuant to that existing law, the Commission has
6 classified coyotes as unprotected mammals for which there is no closed season and
7 for which a hunting license is not required. (NAC 503.035, 503.090, 503.193)
8 Existing law defines the word “taken” to mean to kill, capture, shoot, trap, catch,
9 wound, possess, collect, seine, snare or net, and every attempt to do so. (NRS
10 501.088) **Section 1** of this bill: (1) makes it unlawful for a person to conduct or
11 participate in a contest, tournament or other competition in which coyotes are taken
12 for prizes or entertainment; and (2) subjects a person who violates that prohibition
13 to punishment for a category D felony. **Section 1** also requires a coyote which is
14 injured during such a competition to be transported to a veterinarian if the best
15 efforts to treat and release the coyote fail. **Section 2** of this bill makes a conforming
16 change.



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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 501 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto a new section to read as follows:

3 **1. It is unlawful for a person to organize, sponsor, promote,**
4 **conduct, participate in or engage in the furtherance of any**
5 **contest, tournament or other competition in which coyotes are**
6 **taken for:**

7 **(a) Prizes or any other form of inducement; or**

8 **(b) Entertainment.**

9 **2. If a coyote is injured during the course of an unlawful**
10 **competition specified in subsection 1, and if the best efforts to treat**
11 **and release the coyote fail, the person responsible for organizing,**
12 **sponsoring, promoting or conducting the competition shall, to the**
13 **greatest extent practicable, transport the coyote to a veterinarian**
14 **for treatment or humane euthanasia.**

15 **3. A person who violates a provision of subsection 1 is guilty**
16 **of a category D felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS**
17 **193.130. Each injury to or death of a coyote which is caused by**
18 **the violation is a separate offense.**

19 **Sec. 2.** NRS 504.295 is hereby amended to read as follows:

20 504.295 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section and
21 NRS 503.590 **and subsection 2 of section 1 of this act**, or unless
22 otherwise specified by a regulation adopted by the Commission, no
23 person may:

24 (a) Possess any live wildlife unless the person is licensed by the
25 Department to do so.

26 (b) Capture live wildlife in this State to stock a commercial or
27 noncommercial wildlife facility.

28 (c) Possess or release from confinement any mammal for the
29 purposes of hunting.

30 2. The Commission shall adopt regulations for the possession
31 of live wildlife. The regulations must set forth the species of wildlife
32 which may be possessed and propagated, and provide for the
33 inspection by the Department of any related facilities.

34 3. In accordance with the regulations of the Commission, the
35 Department may issue commercial and noncommercial licenses for
36 the possession of live wildlife upon receipt of the applicable fee.

37 4. The provisions of this section do not apply to alternative
38 livestock and products made therefrom.

39 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2019.

