

No. 14. An act relating to the illegal taking of trophy big game animals.

(H.66)

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 4514 is amended to read:

§ 4514. POSSESSION OF FLESH OF GAME

(a) When legally taken, the flesh of a fish or wild animal may be possessed for food for a reasonable time thereafter and such flesh may be transported and stored in a public cold storage plant. Nothing in this section shall authorize the possession of game birds or carcasses or parts thereof contrary to regulations made pursuant to the migratory bird treaty act.

(b) Any person convicted of illegally taking, destroying or possessing wild animals shall, in addition to other penalties provided under this chapter, pay into the fish and wildlife fund for each animal taken, destroyed or possessed, no more than the following amounts:

(1) Big game	\$1,000.00 <u>\$2,000.00</u> each
(2) Endangered or threatened species as defined in section 5401 of this title	1,000.00 <u>\$2,000.00</u> each
(3) Small game	250.00 <u>\$500.00</u> each
(4) Fish	25.00 <u>\$25.00</u> each

Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. § 4518 is amended to read:

§ 4518. BIG GAME VIOLATIONS

Whoever violates a provision of this part or orders or rules of the board relating to taking, possessing, transporting, buying, or selling of big game shall be fined not more than ~~\$500.00~~ \$1,000.00 nor less than ~~\$200.00~~ \$400.00 or imprisoned for not more than 60 days, or both. Upon a second and all subsequent convictions, the violator shall be fined not more than ~~\$1,000.00~~ \$2,000.00 nor less than ~~\$500.00~~ \$1,000.00 or imprisoned for not more than 60 days, or both.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2012.

Approved: May 6, 2011