



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

Raised Bill No. 146

LCO No. 836



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF LIVESTOCK FROM CERTAIN WILDLIFE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (e) of section 26-47 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
5 the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may issue
6 permits for the taking of wildlife that threatens, [or] causes damage to
7 agricultural crops, livestock or apiaries [,] or that caused damage to
8 crops during the preceding growing season, as verified by the
9 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection if: (1) The owner
10 or lessee of the subject property utilized reasonable nonlethal efforts to
11 protect such [crops,] apiaries or livestock, including, but not limited to,
12 electric fencing, animal guardians or fortified enclosed structures, and
13 (2) an investigation by Department of Energy and Environmental
14 Protection personnel determines that the taking of such wildlife is
15 necessary to protect agricultural crops, apiaries or livestock from

16 excessive damage and that reasonable nonlethal efforts to protect such
17 [crops,] apiaries or livestock have not been or are not likely to be
18 successful in preventing further damage. Any such permit issued
19 pursuant to this subsection shall specify the means, methods and times
20 for which such take is allowed and shall only be issued by the
21 commissioner to the: (A) Owner of the subject property on which such
22 excessive damage occurred, (B) agent of such owner, or (C) lessee of
23 such subject property, provided such lessee has the written permission
24 of such owner to take wildlife. No application for a permit pursuant to
25 this section shall require notarization. Any wildlife taken pursuant to
26 this section shall be disposed of as directed by the department. The
27 provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to authorize the
28 taking of any federally protected species.

29 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 26-80a of the general statutes is
30 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
31 *passage*):

32 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent any person
33 from using deadly physical force to kill a bear if such person reasonably
34 believes that a bear is: (1) Inflicting or is about to inflict great bodily
35 harm to a human, (2) injuring or killing such person's pet or livestock
36 that is otherwise controlled in accordance with any applicable provision
37 of the general statutes or any regulation adopted pursuant to such a
38 provision, or (3) entering a building occupied by persons.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	26-47(e)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	26-80a(c)

Statement of Purpose:

To authorize the taking of certain wildlife that injure or kill livestock or that caused crop damage in the preceding growing season.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]