

ASSEMBLY, No. 1271

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblyman COLLINS

1 AN ACT concerning the use of firearms while trapping on Sundays and
2 amending R.S.23:4-24.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. R.S.23:4-24 is amended to read as follows:

8 23:4-24. No person shall hunt with a hound or with firearms or
9 weapons of any kind, or carry a gun in the woods or fields or on the
10 waters on Sunday, under a penalty of \$20.00 for each offense; except
11 that this section shall not apply to any person hunting raccoon between
12 midnight on Saturday and sunrise on Sunday during the season
13 prescribed in section 23:4-1 of this Title or to a person licensed to trap
14 fur-bearing animals pursuant to the provisions of R.S.23:3-1 using a
15 .22 caliber short rifle cartridge to humanely dispatch trapped animals.
16 This section shall not prevent farm land owners, lessees actually
17 occupying or farming the land, members of their immediate families,
18 or their farm employees from hunting and destroying at any time and
19 in any manner crows, woodchuck, fox and vermin on that land.

20 (cf: P.L.1959, c.71, s.1)

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22 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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27 This bill would amend R.S.23:4-24, a statute that prohibits hunting
28 on Sundays, to permit persons licensed to trap fur-bearing animals
29 pursuant to the provisions of R.S.23:3-1, to use a .22 caliber short
30 rifle cartridge to humanely shoot and kill trapped animals on Sundays.
31 Under current law, trapping is permitted every day of the week and the
32 use of firearms in the field every day except Sundays. Consequently,

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 trappers are unable to dispatch trapped animals on Sundays in the most
2 humane fashion, i.e., with a firearm. Under the provisions of the bill,
3 trappers would be able to use firearms and ammunition of limited
4 power only for that purpose.

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9 Permits use of .22 short cartridge by trappers on Sundays.