

signor" and so arranged as to provide a blank space for such signature.

At any time of shipping by any common carrier of any animals or parts thereof the consignor named in such license shall personally sign his name to said sections "A" and "B" in the presence of two witnesses, one of whom shall be the agent of the common carrier.

The shipment of any game animal by any common carrier or agent thereof, or by any person except after full compliance with the provisions of this section, is hereby made unlawful.

Whoever shall offend against any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty (\$50.00) nor more than one hundred (\$100.00) dollars and the costs of prosecution, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than thirty nor more than ninety days for each and every offense.

Approved April 23, 1915.

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#### CHAPTER 288—H. F. No. 771.

*An Act for the preservation of game and fish and the prevention of unlawful hunting on rural property and the establishment of game refuges and closed seasons for killing game in certain localities and other purposes.*

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

**Section 1. Establishment of game refuge by request of owners of land.**—Any owner or owners, lessee or lessees in possession of real property located outside the corporate limits of any city or village in the state may request of the state Game and Fish Commission that his or their lands be constituted a game refuge and thereupon the said Game and Fish Commission may declare the said lands a game refuge. Said petitioner or petitioners shall thereupon post signs upon said property reciting said order, stating that the same is a state game refuge and that trespassing by a person carrying arms is prohibited thereon under penalty of the law. Said signs shall be furnished said petitioner or petitioners by the said Game and Fish Commission without cost provided it has funds sufficient available for that purpose. Said order may be vacated in whole or part by the said Game and Fish Commission at any time upon petition or upon their own motion.

**Sec. 2. Game and fish commission to order a hearing.**—Twenty-five or more residents of any county or counties of Minnesota and property owners therein may at any time petition to the state Game and Fish Commission requesting that a closed season for the killing of frogs, game birds and animals protected by

law be ordered in a certain district, describing said district by metes and bounds. Thereupon the said Game and Fish Commission shall order a hearing upon said petition and post in five of the most prominent places in said district a notice of said hearing which notice shall be posted at least fifteen days prior thereto. Upon said hearing if it shall appear that, by reason of the depletion of the said frogs, game birds and animals therein, that the same are in danger of extermination and that said closed season shall be in the public interest the said Game and Fish Commission may declare a closed season either permanently or for a number of years therein and enter its order reciting the same. Fifteen days after the posting of said order in said district (as provided herein for the posting of the notice of hearing) the order shall go into effect. Said order may be revised from time to time upon notice, hearing, order, and posting as required herein.

Provided, that no game refuge shall be established under this chapter of less than 640 acres of contiguous lands. And provided further that no lands shall be included in such game refuge which are owned and occupied as a private duck pass.

Any party destroying or mutilating any of the signs or notices specified in this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Any person hunting or killing frogs, game birds or animals or trespassing while carrying arms upon any game refuge established in accordance with section 1 of this act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Any person or persons hunting or killing any of the frogs, birds or animals protected by law upon any grounds upon which a closed season has been duly established in accordance with section 2 of this act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Any game refuge established under section one (1) or section two (2) of this act shall be construed to include all public waters, and state, federal, or other public lands which may be enclosed within the boundaries of said refuge, and may include adjacent and contiguous public waters and state, federal or other public lands at the discretion of the state Game and Fish Commission.

**Sec. 3. Frogs permitted for fish bait.**—None of the provisions of this act shall be construed to prevent any person from using frogs for fish bait during any of the open seasons under the provisions of this act.

Approved April 23, 1915.