

## CHAPTER 787—H. F. No. 2286

[Coded]

*An act relating to wild animals; establishing a predator control program; prescribing the powers and duties of the commissioner of conservation in connection therewith; providing penalties; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 1967, Chapter 97, by adding a section.*

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1967, Chapter 97, is amended by adding a section to read:

**[97.487] Wild animals; predator control program.** *Subdivision 1. Purpose. The purpose of this section is to systematically control predatory wild animals doing damage to public or private property.*

*Subd. 2. Definitions. (a) For the purpose of this section, the following terms have the following meanings given them.*

*(b) "Predator" means a timber wolf, coyote, brush wolf, fox, lynx or bobcat.*

*(c) "Controller" means a person certified by the commissioner to take or kill predators pursuant to this section.*

*Subd. 3. Investigation of predation. If the commissioner has reason to believe that a predator or predators are causing damage to domestic or wild animals and if he determines that corrective action is necessary, he shall request the controllers residing in the county or the area designated, to take predators causing the damage by any method authorized for the taking of unprotected wild animals. The commissioner shall specify the county or other defined area in which the predator control activities are to be conducted, the objectives to be achieved, payments to be made, and he shall approve the methods to be used. All of the controllers shall cease their activities when the objective is achieved or when so directed by the commissioner.*

*Subd. 4. Certification of predator controllers. The commissioner shall certify as a predator controller all persons who meet qualifications as to experience, ability and reliability which the commissioner shall prescribe. The commissioner shall establish application procedures, prescribe forms and maintain a list of said controllers. Application procedures shall provide for reports from conserva-*

**Changes or additions indicated by italics, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.**

tion officers and other department field personnel as to the ability and reliability of the applicants.

*Subd. 5. Predator control payments.* Upon satisfactory proof being made to the commissioner by a controller, the commissioner shall pay him the amount prescribed by order for each predator taken. The commissioner shall not pay in excess of \$60 nor less than \$25 for each wolf, brush wolf or coyote taken in the county or defined area. The commissioner shall make payments for other predators according to the provisions of this section as he may determine. The commissioner may require the controller to submit a signed statement of information concerning the predators taken, where he deems it necessary.

*Subd. 6. Unlawful acts; penalty.* A person who unlawfully or fraudulently claims or obtains any payment for the taking of a predator under this section or who otherwise violates the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. A person convicted of violating a provision of this section is thereafter prohibited from acting as a controller under the provisions of this section.

**Sec. 2. Appropriation.** *Subdivision 1.* The sum of \$75,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of conservation for the biennium ending June 30, 1971 to make predator control payments required by this act.

*Subd. 2.* The sum of \$75,000 is appropriated from the game and fish fund to the commissioner of conservation for the biennium ending June 30, 1971 to make predator control payments required by this act.

Approved May 27, 1969.

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#### CHAPTER 788—H. F. No. 2289

*An act relating to town treasurers; amending Minnesota Statutes 1967, Section 367.035; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1967, Section 367.20.*

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1967, Section 367.035, is amended to read:

**367.035 Towns; treasurers; vacancies in certain towns.** In

**Changes or additions indicated by italics, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.**