

Public General Laws be and the same are hereby repealed and re-enacted as follows:

SEC. 558. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to trap, catch or kill any otter or muskrat within the State of Maryland, or have same in possession if trapped, caught or killed within this State, between the fifteenth day of March and the first day of January, both dates inclusive, in every year after passage of this Act. Nothing herein contained, however, to prohibit the possession of the skins of such animals for business purposes, when dry and cured; provided that such green skins can be had in possession until the twenty-fifth day of March, in order to allow skins caught late in the season to dry out, but any person found with green or uncured skins after said March twenty-fifth shall be guilty of a violation of this section and subject to its penalties.

No person or persons shall shoot at or in any manner kill or catch, except by gigging or trapping, any muskrat or otter, and it shall be unlawful for any person in Maryland to dig for any muskrat or dig into or in any manner molest or destroy the roof or any part of a muskrat house or den. And it shall further be unlawful for any person or corporation to have within his or its possession any muskrat or muskrat hide or skin that has been shot at or into or killed in any manner except by trapping or gigging; and any muskrat hide perforated with small holes having the appearance of shot or bullet holes, shall be prima facie evidence that it was a muskrat so shot or killed. And any person found guilty before a Justice of the Peace, of killing muskrats in any manner, except as herein provided, shall be fined the sum of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars and upon failure to pay same shall be imprisoned in the County Jail not exceeding thirty days or until such fine and costs are paid.

SEC. 59. *And be it further enacted,* That any person violating any of the provisions of the preceding section, unless the fine is therein specifically provided for, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction before any Justice of the Peace, shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), nor more than fifty dollars (\$50.00), as above, for each and every animal or skin trapped, caught or had in possession contrary to the provision of Section 58, "one-half of all fines for violation of this Act, shall be paid to the informer, and the remaining one-half of the fine shall be paid over to the State