

and sub-title and to enact in lieu thereof a new section to be known as Section 41, to follow immediately after Section 40 of said Article, relating to the sale or furnishing of alcoholic beverages to minors.

(Vetoed.)

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CHAPTER 840.

(House Bill 237)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 61 of Article 99 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Water Fowl—Birds and Game", sub-title "Otter, Muskrat, Raccoon and Opossum", relating to the land on which muskrats may be trapped.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 61 of Article 99 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Water Fowl—Birds and Game", sub-title "Otter, Muskrat, Raccoon and Opossum", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

61. (a) No person may hunt any muskrat, or have the meat or pelt of any muskrat in his possession, whether same are trapped, caught or killed within the State of Maryland, or any other State, territory or country, except between January 1 and March 15, inclusive, provided, however, that any person may have green muskrat skins in his possession until March 25th for purposes of curing such skins.

Nothing herein contained shall prohibit the possession of dried and cured muskrat skins for business purposes. Provided, however, it shall be lawful to have the meat of the muskrat in possession not more than three (3) days after the close of the legal hunting season for the purpose of disposing of the meat or meats for food.

(b) No person may shoot at, or gig, or kill or catch any muskrat in any manner except by trapping; and no person shall dig into or in any manner molest or destroy any part of a muskrat den or house. No person may possess at any time the hide or skin of any muskrat which has been caught in any way except by trapping; and any muskrat hide or skin which has been punctured by a hole which appears to be a shot or bullet hole shall be prima facie evidence that the muskrat was illegally killed.