

## CHAPTER 36

(House Bill 46)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact with amendments Section 178 of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1959 Supplement), title "Natural Resources", sub-title "Raccoon, Opossum and Skunks", amending the laws concerning the hunting of raccoon, or opossum in order to correct a reference to a date therein.

WHEREAS, in Chapter 441 of the Acts of 1959, there is an amendment to the laws concerning the hunting of raccoon and opossum, and

WHEREAS, in the enacting of this bill, the Legislature changed a date from October 1 to September 15, this date concerning the hunting of raccoon and opossum; and

WHEREAS, in another portion of the same section there was a reference to the date of September 30, which should have been changed to September 14 in order to correlate with the change made from October 1 to September 15; and

WHEREAS, this change should now be made in order to provide certainty and clarity in the laws concerning the hunting of raccoon and opossum; now, therefore

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 178 of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1959 Supplement), title "Natural Resources", sub-title "Raccoon, Opossum and Skunks", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments to read as follows:

178. In general.

(a) Time and manner of taking.—No person may hunt any raccoon or opossum except after sunset and before sunrise of any day between September 15 and the next succeeding January 31, inclusive. No person shall hunt any raccoon or opossum between sunrise and midnight Sunday. No person shall cut a tree for the purpose of catching, killing, or dislodging a raccoon or opossum without the consent of the owner of such tree. No person may at any time set or otherwise use any steel trap or other similar device to catch any raccoon or opossum; except that the landowner or his agent may at any time set or otherwise use steel traps or other similar devices to catch raccoons or opossums which are damaging property.

(b) Throwing from trees; license required.—No person shall between February 1 and September ~~[30]~~ 14, inclusive, shake or throw out of any tree or den any raccoon or opossum. Every person hunting raccoon or opossum must have a hunter's license for the current year in possession and tag displayed on outer garment.

EXPLANATION: *Italics indicate new matter added to existing law.*  
 [Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.  
 CAPITALS indicate amendments to bill.  
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken out of bill.