

SEC. 3. All applicants for or recipients of aid to dependent children grants, blind grants, and general assistance shall be entitled to a fair hearing under the terms and conditions established for fair hearings for Senior Citizens under sections 7, 8 and 9, chapter 1, Laws of 1941, (sections 9998-40, 9998-41 and 9998-42, Remington's Revised Statutes, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 921-13-15-17). Hearings on grants.

SEC. 4. All acts or parts of acts in conflict herewith are repealed.

SEC. 5. This act is necessary for the preservation of the state government and its existing institutions and shall take effect May 1, 1945. Effective May 1, 1945.

Passed the House March 1, 1945.

Passed the Senate March 7, 1945.

Approved by the Governor March 15, 1945.

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## CHAPTER 81.

[ H. B. 52. ]

### PREDATORY ANIMALS.

AN ACT relating to predators and game; prescribing the powers and duties of certain officials relating thereto; prescribing penalties; repealing chapter 59, Laws of 1935, chapter 63, Laws of 1937, and chapter 64, Laws of 1939; making an appropriation; and declaring an emergency.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

SECTION 1. Efforts to rid the state of predatory animals through payment of statutory bounties fixed for the state at large have proved unavailing and it has been found that predation is rapidly increasing in many areas of this state wherein resultant damage has occurred to wild game, domestic herds, birds and flocks. In order to adequately assure the control of predatory animals and birds throughout the state

Predatory  
game  
control.

to a point where their damage to wild game, domestic herds, birds, flocks and insectivorous bird life will be negligible and particularly in areas wherein greater damage is being done, the State Game Commission shall have the power and it shall be its duty from time to time to promulgate, adopt, amend or repeal, and enforce reasonable rules and regulations designating the time and areas in this state wherein hunting, trapping, taking or killing of predatory animals and birds may be carried on for payment of bounty by the state and determining the amount of such bounty within the limitations and in accordance with the provisions hereinafter set forth.

Bounties.

Hunting of  
predatory  
game.

SEC. 2. Any resident holder of a state or county hunting and fishing license may hunt, trap, take or kill cougar, lynx, bobcat, coyote, or any other animal or bird classified as predatory in any area and at such time so designated, and may present for payment of bounty such animal or bird to the Director of Game or to any person designated by the Director of Game as being qualified to check bountied predators: *Provided*, That any citizen of the United States under the age of sixteen (16) years who has been an actual resident of the State of Washington for the preceding six (6) months will not be required to hold a state or county hunting and fishing license to comply with this act.

Rules  
provided for.

SEC. 3. Whenever any holder of a state or county hunting and fishing license shall hunt, trap, take or kill any cougar, lynx, bobcat, coyote, or any other animal or bird classified by the State Game Commission as a predator, and shall furnish proof thereof in accordance with the rules and regulations established by the State Game Commission for furnishing such proof, he may be paid a bounty in such amount as may be specified by the rules and regulations of the State Game Commission for the predator hunted, trapped, taken or killed under such rules and regula-

tions. Any person who desires to collect a bounty under this act shall furnish such proof and evidence of hunting, trapping, taking or killing said predator as the State Game Commission may require. If the Director of Game has reason to doubt the legality of a bounty claim he may deny the same, and in the event the bounty claim is denied by the Director of Game, the bounty claimant may appeal to the superior court of the county in which such predators or any of them were hunted, trapped, taken or killed, but the burden of proof as to his method of hunting, trapping, taking or killing and the area wherein said predator was hunted, trapped, taken or killed shall be upon the bounty claimant. Said bounties, as specified by the State Game Commission, may in no event exceed the following sums: cougar, one hundred dollars (\$100); lynx, twenty-five dollars (\$25); bobcat, twenty-five dollars (\$25); coyote, twenty dollars (\$20); coyote pup, five dollars (\$5); any other animal or bird classified by the State Game Commission as predatory, five dollars (\$5): *Provided, however,* That the State Game Commission shall have the power to fix the bounty fee on each predator in an amount less than the above specifically designated amounts: *Provided, however,* That owls shall not at any time be classed as predatory. Bounty payments will be made from any moneys which may be appropriated by the legislature for payment of the same. All moneys appropriated for such payments shall be expended under the direction of and upon vouchers approved by the Director of Game.

SEC. 4. Before payment of such bounty, the animal or bird or such part of said predator as shall be designated by the State Game Commission shall be surrendered to the Director of Game, or person designated by the Director of Game as being qualified to check bountied predators, who shall mark

such predator or part thereof in such manner as it can be later identified and, after so marking the same, the Director of Game or designated person shall return such predator or part thereof to the person hunting, trapping, taking or killing the predator upon which the bounty is paid.

Commission  
may define.

SEC. 5. The State Game Commission, upon finding any animal or bird destructive to wild game, domestic herds, birds and flocks, may by rule and regulation classify the same as predatory and subject to hunting, trapping, taking or killing under the provisions of this act.

Rules, how  
promulgated.

SEC. 6. All rules and regulations promulgated, adopted, amended, or repealed by the State Game Commission as herein provided shall be made, promulgated and published within the provisions of section 15, chapter 3, Laws of 1933.

Big game  
hunting.

SEC. 7. It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt or kill any deer, elk, mountain goat, mountain sheep, or moose, without first having procured from the Director of Game a metal tag to be known as a "big game seal" which metal tag shall be procured in addition to any other license to hunt game animals required by law. Such metal tag shall be in the possession of all persons while engaged in hunting deer, elk, mountain goat, mountain sheep, or moose. Such metal tag shall be prepared by and under the supervision of the Director of Game, and shall bear the name "Department of Game of the State of Washington" and the year for which it is issued, and any other distinguishing marks deemed necessary by the Director of Game, and shall be void after the year stamped thereon. Such metal tag shall be immediately attached to the carcass of any deer, elk, mountain goat, mountain sheep, or moose killed by any licensee, and the metal tag shall be properly sealed. The fee for issuing and procuring such

Rules for.

metal tag shall be fifty cents (50¢) and shall be paid in addition to all other license fees provided by law. All moneys received from the issuance or sale of metal tags as provided herein shall be paid into the State Game Fund.

SEC. 8. The Director of Game is authorized and directed, from time to time, to appoint and employ such number of persons, skilled in hunting, trapping, taking or killing predatory animals and birds, as he may deem advisable, to be known as accredited hunters, to carry on the work and control of predatory animals and birds in this state. Deputy hunters.

SEC. 9. All skins and specimens taken by hunters whose salaries are paid out of funds appropriated for the administration of this act shall be disposed of in such manner as the Director of Game shall determine to be for the best interest of the state: *Provided*, That if such skins or specimens are sold, the net proceeds of such sales shall be deposited to the credit of the Game Fund in the office of the Treasurer of the State of Washington. Skins.

SEC. 10. Every person who shall give untrue or misleading information as to the time, areas or county in which the predator was hunted, trapped, taken or killed on which a bounty is being claimed shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not less than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) and not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or imprisonment in the county jail of not more than one (1) year, or by both fine and imprisonment. The Director of Game may revoke, suspend or cancel the license of any person or persons found guilty of violating the provisions of this section. Unless another penalty is specifically provided by law, any person violating or failing to comply with the rules or regulations of the State Game Commission adopted hereunder shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Penalty.

SEC. 11. Nothing in this act shall be deemed in derogation of the power and authority of the Director of Agriculture to cooperate with the United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service in the control and destruction of predatory animals injurious to livestock, poultry and the public health as provided in section 1, chapter 257, Laws of 1943.

Amounts of bounty.

SEC. 12. For the purpose of facilitating the payment of bounties, no voucher therefor shall be issued in payment of the same until the aggregate bounty claim shall be not less than two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50).

SEC. 13. The Director of Game is hereby authorized to enter into cooperative programs to control predators with sportsmen's groups, granges, or others.

Appropriation.

SEC. 14. There is hereby appropriated out of the State Game Fund for the payment of the bounties and for predator control as provided in this act for the biennium April 1, 1945, to March 31, 1947, the sum of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary.

Amendments.

SEC. 15. Chapter 59, Laws of 1935, chapter 63, Laws of 1937, and chapter 64, Laws of 1939, are hereby repealed.

Partial invalidity.

SEC. 16. Should any section or provision of this act be held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not affect the validity of the act as a whole or any part thereof other than that portion so held to be invalid.

Effective immediately.

SEC. 17. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House March 6, 1945.

Passed the Senate March 6, 1945.

Approved by the Governor March 15, 1945.