FILED MAR 14 2005

SENATE FILE 367 BY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1233)

	Passed Senate, Date				Passed House, Date				
	Vote:	Ayes	Nays	Vo	ot e:	Ayes	Nays		
			Approved						
			Λ.1	DILL EAD					
	A BILL FOR								
	Property of					4 P			
1	An Act	relat	ing to various	conservat	tion a	and recr	eation activ	vities	
2	und	er the	purview of th	e departme	ent of	natura	l resources,	,	
3	mod	ifying	fees, and mak	ing penalt	ties a	applicab	le.		
4	BE IT	ENACTE	D BY THE GENER	AL ASSEMBI	LY OF	THE STA	TE OF IOWA:		
5									
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	1		d Senate File				h.a.		
	2 3 f	ı. Tollowi	Page 4, by ins	erting ar	ter I.	ine 19 t	ine ,		
	4		Sectio	n 481A.12	3, Co	de 2005,	is amended		
	5 b	y addi	ng the followi	ng new sul	bsect:	ion:			
	6		SUBSECTION. 5						
			charge of a fi nt of the farm						
			er or tenant o				lember or		
	10		sed in this su				er", "farm		
		ınit",	"owner", and "	tenant" m	ean tl	he same	as defined		
			ion 483A.24, s						
	13	۷.	By renumbering			S H. BLA	CK		
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S-3044 FILED MARCH 22, 2005

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- 1 Section 1. Section 455A.4, subsection 1, paragraph j, Code
- 2 2005, is amended by striking the paragraph.
- Sec. 2. Section 456A.37, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code
- 4 2005, is amended to read as follows:
- 5 c. "Aquatic invasive species" means a species that is not
- 6 native to an ecosystem and whose introduction causes or is
- 7 likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to
- 8 human health including but not limited to habitat alteration
- 9 and degradation, and loss of biodiversity. For the purposes
- 10 of this section, "aquatic invasive species" are limited to
- 11 Eurasian water milfoil, purple loosestrife, and zebra mussels,
- 12 except-as-provided-in-subsection-4 and those species
- 13 identified as "aquatic invasive species" by the commission by
- 14 rule.
- 15 Sec. 3. Section 456A.37, subsection 4, unnumbered
- 16 paragraph 2, Code 2005, is amended to read as follows:
- 17 c. If the commission determines that an additional species
- 18 should be defined as an "aquatic invasive species", the
- 19 species may shall be defined by the commission by rule as an
- 20 "aquatic invasive species" subject-to-enactment-of-the
- 21 definition-by-the-general-assembly-at-the-next-regular-session
- 22 of-the-general-assembly:--Failure-of-the-general-assembly-to
- 23 enact-the-definition-pursuant-to-this-paragraph-constitutes-a
- 24 nullification-of-the-definition-effective-upon-adjournment-of
- 25 that-next-regular-session-of-the-general-assembly.
- Sec. 4. Section 461A.25, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code
- 27 2005, is amended to read as follows:
- The commission may recommend-that-the-executive-council
- 29 lease property under the commission's jurisdiction. All
- 30 leases shall reserve to the public of the state the right to
- 31 enter upon the property leased for any lawful purpose. The
- 32 council-may,-if-it-approves-the-recommendation-and-the If a
- 33 lease is to be entered into is for a period of five years or
- 34 less, the director, upon approval by the commission, shall
- 35 execute the lease in on behalf of the state and commission.

- 1 If the-recommendation-is-for a lease is to be entered into for
- 2 a period in excess of five years, with the exception of
- 3 agricultural lands specifically dealt with in Article I,
- 4 section 24, of the Constitution of the State of Iowa, the
- 5 council commission shall advertise for bids. If-a-bid-is
- 6 accepted; -the-lease-shall-be-let-or-executed-by-the-council-in
- 7 accordance-with-the-most-desirable-bid. The commission may
- 8 accept bids and approve leases that the commission determines
- 9 are in the best interests of the state. A lease shall not be
- 10 executed for a term longer than fifty years. Any such
- 11 leasehold interest, including any improvements placed on it,
- 12 shall be listed on the tax rolls as provided in chapters 428
- 13 and 443; assessed and valued as provided in chapter 441; taxes
- 14 shall be levied on it as provided in chapter 444 and collected
- 15 as provided in chapter 445; and the leasehold interest is
- 16 subject to tax sale, redemption, and apportionment of taxes as
- 17 provided in chapters 446, 447 and 448. The lessee shall
- 18 discharge and pay all taxes.
- 19 Sec. 5. Section 462A.2, Code 2005, is amended by adding
- 20 the following new subsections:
- 21 NEW SUBSECTION. 8A. "Cut-off switch" means an operable
- 22 factory-installed or dealer-installed emergency cut-off engine
- 23 stop switch that is installed on a personal watercraft.
- 24 NEW SUBSECTION. 8B. "Cut-off switch lanyard" means the
- 25 cord used to attach the person of the operator of a personal
- 26 watercraft to the cut-off switch.
- Sec. 6. Section 462A.7, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2005,
- 28 are amended to read as follows:
- 29 1. The operator of a vessel involved in a-collision,
- 30 accident-or-other-casualty an occurrence that results in
- 31 personal property damage or that results in the injury or
- 32 death of a person shall, so far as possible without serious
- 33 danger to the operator's own vessel, crew or passengers,
- 34 render to other persons affected by the collision, accident-or
- 35 casualty occurrence, such assistance as may be practicable and

- 1 necessary to save them from or minimize any danger caused by
- 2 the collision, -accident-or-other-casualty occurrence. The
- 3 operator shall also give the operator's name, address, and
- 4 identification of the operator's vessel in writing to any
- 5 person injured and to the owner of any property damaged in the
- 6 collision, -accident-or-other-casualty occurrence.
- Whenever any vessel is involved in a-collision;
- 8 accident-or-casualty an occurrence that results in personal
- 9 property damage or that results in the injury or death of a
- 10 person, except one which results only in property damage not
- 11 exceeding five-hundred two thousand dollars, a report thereof
- 12 shall be filed with the commission. The report shall be filed
- 13 by the operator of the vessel and shall contain such
- 14 information as the commission may, by rule, require. The
- 15 report shall be submitted without-delay within forty-eight
- 16 hours of the occurrence in death or disappearance cases and in
- 17 occurrences that result in personal injuries requiring more
- 18 than first aid treatment, and within five days of the
- 19 occurrence in all other cases.
- 20 Sec. 7. Section 462A.9, Code 2005, is amended by adding
- 21 the following new subsection:
- 22 NEW SUBSECTION. 12A. An owner of a personal watercraft
- 23 equipped with a cut-off switch shall maintain the cut-off
- 24 switch and the accompanying cut-off switch lanyard in an
- 25 operable, fully functional condition.
- Sec. 8. Section 462A.12, Code 2005, is amended by adding
- 27 the following new subsections:
- NEW SUBSECTION. 14. A person shall not operate a personal
- 29 watercraft that is equipped with a cut-off switch, at any
- 30 time, without first attaching the accompanying cut-off switch
- 31 lanyard to the operator's person while the engine is running
- 32 and the personal watercraft is in use.
- 33 NEW SUBSECTION. 15. A person shall not operate a vessel
- 34 on the waters of this state unless every person on board the
- 35 vessel who is under thirteen years of age is wearing a type I,

- 1 II, III, or V personal flotation device that is approved by
- 2 the United States coast guard, while the vessel is under way.
- 3 This subsection does not apply to a person who is under
- 4 thirteen years of age and is in an enclosed cabin or below
- 5 deck.
- 6 Sec. 9. Section 481A.55, subsection 1, Code 2005, is
- 7 amended to read as follows:
- Except as otherwise provided, a person shall not buy or
- 9 sell, dead or alive, a bird or animal or any part of one which
- 10 is protected by this chapter, but this section does not apply
- 11 to fur-bearing animals, bones of wild turkeys that were
- 12 legally taken, and the skins, plumage, and antlers of legally
- 13 taken game. This section does not prohibit the purchase of
- 14 jackrabbits from sources outside this state. A person shall
- 15 not purchase, sell, barter, or offer to purchase, sell, or
- 16 barter for millinery or ornamental use the feathers of
- 17 migratory game birds; and a person shall not purchase, sell,
- 18 barter, or offer to purchase, sell, or barter mounted
- 19 specimens of migratory game birds.
- 20 Sec. 10. Section 481A.130, subsection 1, paragraph q, Code
- 21 2005, is amended to read as follows:
- 22 g. For each antlered deer, reimbursement shall be based on
- 23 the point score of the antlered deer as measured by the Boone
- 24 and Crockett club's net scoring system for whitetail deer as
- 25 follows:
- 26 (1) 150 gross points or less: A minimum of two thousand
- 27 dollars and not more than five thousand dollars, and eighty
- 28 hours of community service or, in lieu of the community
- 29 service, a minimum of four thousand dollars and not more than
- 30 ten thousand dollars, in an amount that is deemed reasonable
- 31 by the court.
- 32 (2) More than 150 gross points: A minimum of five
- 33 thousand dollars and not more than ten thousand dollars, and
- 34 eighty hours of community service or, in lieu of the community
- 35 service, a minimum of ten thousand dollars and not more than

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- 1 twenty thousand dollars, in an amount that is deemed
- 2 reasonable by the court.
- 3 Sec. 11. Section 481A.133, Code 2005, is amended to read
- 4 as follows:
- 5 481A.133 SUSPENSION OF LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, AND
- 6 PERMITS.
- 7 A person who is assessed damages pursuant to section
- 8 481A.130 shall immediately surrender all licenses,
- 9 certificates, and permits to hunt, fish, or trap in the state
- 10 to the department. The licenses, permits, and certificates,
- 11 and the privileges associated with them shall remain suspended
- 12 until the assessed damages and any accrued interest are paid
- 13 or-a-payment-schedule-is-established-by-the-court in full.
- 14 Upon payment of the assessed damages and any accrued interest,
- 15 the suspension shall be lifted. If-a-payment-schedule-is
- 16 established, the suspension shall be lifted and remain so
- 17 unless-the-person-fails-to-make-a-payment-pursuant-to-that
- 18 schedule:--Failure-to-make-a-payment-shall-cause-the
- 19 suspension-to-be-renewed. Interest shall begin to accrue as
- 20 of the date of judgment at a rate of ten percent per year.
- 21 Sec. 12. Section 483A.27, subsections 1 and 7, Code 2005,
- 22 are amended to read as follows:
- 23 1. A person born after January 1, ±967 1972, shall not
- 24 obtain a hunting license unless the person has satisfactorily
- 25 completed a hunter safety and ethics education course approved
- 26 by the commission. A person who is eleven years of age or
- 27 more may enroll in an approved hunter safety and ethics
- 28 education course, but a person who is eleven years of age and
- 29 who has successfully completed the course shall be issued a
- 30 certificate of completion which becomes valid on the person's
- 31 twelfth birthday. A certificate of completion from an
- 32 approved hunter safety and ethics education course issued in
- 33 this state since 1960, by another state, or by a foreign
- 34 nation, is valid for the requirements of this section.
- 35 7. A hunting license obtained under this section by a

- 1 person who gave false information or presented a fraudulent
- 2 certificate of completion shall be revoked and a new hunting
- 3 license shall not be issued for at least two years from the
- 4 date of conviction. A hunting license obtained by a person
- 5 who was born after January 1, 1967 1972, but has not
- 6 satisfactorily completed the hunter safety and ethics
- 7 education course or has not met the requirements established
- 8 by the commission, shall be revoked.
- 9 EXPLANATION
- 10 This bill contains provisions relating to the regulation of
- 11 various conservation and recreation activities under the
- 12 purview of the department of natural resources.
- 13 Code section 455A.4 is amended by striking the provision
- 14 that requires the department of natural resources to submit a
- 15 report every five years to the natural resource commission
- 16 that includes information concerning the classification of the
- 17 state's parks, recreation areas, and preserves and any
- 18 recommendations for reclassification; methods for maintaining
- 19 the diversity of animal and plant life in state parks,
- 20 recreation areas, and preserves; options to achieve controlled
- 21 deer hunting in order to prevent overpopulation of deer; and
- 22 prevention of economic damage to private property which is
- 23 located adjacent to state parks, recreation areas, and
- 24 preserves.
- 25 Code section 456A.37 is amended to identify and define
- 26 additional species as "aquatic invasive species" by rule
- 27 without the subsequent codification of the definitions by the
- 28 general assembly at the next regular session.
- 29 Code section 461A.25 is amended by allowing the director of
- 30 the department of natural resources to execute leases of
- 31 property under the natural resource commission's jurisdiction
- 32 for periods of five years or less, with the approval of the
- 33 commission. The bill also provides that for leases of such
- 34 property in excess of five years the commission shall
- 35 advertise and may accept bids and approve leases that the

- 1 commission determines are in the best interests of the state.
- Code section 462A.2 is amended to define a "cut-off switch"
- 3 as an operable factory-installed or dealer-installed emergency
- 4 cut-off engine stop switch that is installed on a personal
- 5 watercraft and to define a "cut-off switch lanyard" as the
- 6 cord used to attach the person of the operator of a personal
- 7 watercraft to the cut-off switch.
- 8 Code section 462A.7 is amended to provide that the owner of
- 9 a vessel shall give assistance, so far as possible, and
- 10 provide the vessel operator's name, address, and vessel
- 11 identification to any person who is injured or whose property
- 12 is damaged when the operator's vessel is involved in an
- 13 occurrence that results in personal property damage or that
- 14 results in the injury or death of a person. Code section
- 15 462A.7 is also amended to provide that when any vessel is
- 16 involved in such an occurrence, except one which results only
- 17 in property damage not exceeding \$2,000, a report must be
- 18 filed with the natural resource commission by the operator of
- 19 the vessel involved. Previously, a report had to be filed
- 20 when the property damage exceeded \$500. The report must be
- 21 filed within 48 hours of the occurrence when a person dies or
- 22 disappears or when a person suffers an injury requiring more
- 23 than first aid treatment. In all other cases, the report must
- 24 be filed within five days of the occurrence.
- 25 Code section 462A.9 is amended to provide that the owner of
- 26 a personal watercraft equipped with a cut-off switch must
- 27 maintain the cut-off switch and the accompanying cut-off
- 28 switch lanyard in an operable, fully functional condition. A
- 29 violation of this new provision is punishable by a scheduled
- 30 fine of \$20 under Code section 805.8B.
- 31 Code section 462A.12 is amended to prohibit a person from
- 32 operating a personal watercraft that is equipped with a cut-
- 33 off switch, at any time, without first attaching the
- 34 accompanying cut-off switch lanyard to the operator's person
- 35 while the engine is running and the personal watercraft is in

1 use. A violation of this provision is punishable by a 2 scheduled fine of \$25.

Code section 462A.12 is amended to prohibit a person from 4 operating a vessel on the waters of this state unless every 5 person on board the vessel who is under 13 years of age is 6 wearing a type I, II, III, or V personal flotation device that 7 is approved by the United States coast guard, while the vessel 8 is under way. This provision does not apply to a person under 9 13 years of age who is in an enclosed cabin or below deck. A 10 violation of this provision is punishable by a scheduled fine 11 of \$25.

12 Code section 481A.55 is amended to allow a person to buy or 13 sell the bones of wild turkeys that were legally taken. A 14 violation of this provision is punishable by a scheduled fine 15 of \$50.

16 Code section 481A.130 is amended to specify that damages 17 for illegally taking an antlered deer are based on the Boone 18 and Crockett club scoring system of gross points for whitetail 19 deer.

Code section 481A.133 is amended to provide that when a person is assessed damages for unlawfully selling, taking, catching, killing, injuring, destroying, or possessing an animal, the person's licenses, certificates, and permits are suspended until payment in full of the assessed damages and accrued interest. The bill removes the option that allowed a person to pay damages pursuant to a payment schedule. The bill also specifies that interest begins to accrue as of the date of judgment at a rate of 10 percent per year.

Code section 483A.27 is amended to provide that a person 30 born after January 1, 1972, instead of January 1, 1967, must 31 complete a hunter safety and ethics education course before 32 obtaining a hunting license and that a hunting license 33 obtained by a such a person who has not completed the required 34 course shall be revoked. A violation of these provisions is

35 punishable by a scheduled fine of \$20.

SENATE FILE 367 BY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

	(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1233)
(AS AMENDED AND PA	SSED BY THE SENATE MARCH 23, 2005)
	- New Language by the Senate
Passed Senate, Date	Passed House, Date
Vote: Ayes Nay	s Vote: Ayes Nays
Approved	
	A BILL FOR
1 An Act relating to var	ious conservation and recreation activities
	f the department of natural resources,
<pre>3 modifying fees, and</pre>	making penalties applicable.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

- 1 Section 1. Section 455A.4, subsection 1, paragraph j, Code
- 2 2005, is amended by striking the paragraph.
- Sec. 2. Section 456A.37, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code
- 4 2005, is amended to read as follows:
- 5 c. "Aquatic invasive species" means a species that is not
- 6 native to an ecosystem and whose introduction causes or is
- 7 likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to
- 8 human health including but not limited to habitat alteration
- 9 and degradation, and loss of biodiversity. For the purposes
- 10 of this section, "aquatic invasive species" are limited to
- 11 Eurasian water milfoil, purple loosestrife, and zebra mussels,
- 12 except-as-provided-in-subsection-4 and those species
- 13 identified as "aquatic invasive species" by the commission by
- 14 rule.
- 15 Sec. 3. Section 456A.37, subsection 4, unnumbered
- 16 paragraph 2, Code 2005, is amended to read as follows:
- 17 c. If the commission determines that an additional species
- 18 should be defined as an "aquatic invasive species", the
- 19 species may shall be defined by the commission by rule as an
- 20 "aquatic invasive species" subject-to-enactment-of-the
- 21 definition-by-the-general-assembly-at-the-next-regular-session
- 22 of-the-general-assembly---Failure-of-the-general-assembly-to
- 23 enact-the-definition-pursuant-to-this-paragraph-constitutes-a
- 24 mullification-of-the-definition-effective-upon-adjournment-of
- 25 that-next-regular-session-of-the-general-assembly.
- 26 Sec. 4. Section 461A.25, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code
- 27 2005, is amended to read as follows:
- 28 The commission may recommend-that-the-executive-council
- 29 lease property under the commission's jurisdiction. All
- 30 leases shall reserve to the public of the state the right to
- 31 enter upon the property leased for any lawful purpose. The
- 32 council-may, -if-it-approves-the-recommendation-and-the If a
- 33 lease is to be entered into is for a period of five years or
- 34 less, the director, upon approval by the commission, shall
- 35 execute the lease in on behalf of the state and commission.

- 1 If the-recommendation-is-for a lease is to be entered into for
- 2 a period in excess of five years, with the exception of
- 3 agricultural lands specifically dealt with in Article I,
- 4 section 24, of the Constitution of the State of Iowa, the
- 5 council commission shall advertise for bids. If-a-bid-is
- 6 accepted, -the-lease-shall-be-let-or-executed-by-the-council-in
- 7 accordance-with-the-most-desirable-bid. The commission may
- 8 accept bids and approve leases that the commission determines
- 9 are in the best interests of the state. A lease shall not be
- 10 executed for a term longer than fifty years. Any such
- 11 leasehold interest, including any improvements placed on it,
- 12 shall be listed on the tax rolls as provided in chapters 428
- 13 and 443; assessed and valued as provided in chapter 441; taxes
- 14 shall be levied on it as provided in chapter 444 and collected
- 15 as provided in chapter 445; and the leasehold interest is
- 16 subject to tax sale, redemption, and apportionment of taxes as
- 17 provided in chapters 446, 447 and 448. The lessee shall
- 18 discharge and pay all taxes.
- 19 Sec. 5. Section 462A.2, Code 2005, is amended by adding
- 20 the following new subsections:
- 21 NEW SUBSECTION. 8A. "Cut-off switch" means an operable
- 22 factory-installed or dealer-installed emergency cut-off engine
- 23 stop switch that is installed on a personal watercraft.
- 24 NEW SUBSECTION. 8B. "Cut-off switch lanyard" means the
- 25 cord used to attach the person of the operator of a personal
- 26 watercraft to the cut-off switch.
- Sec. 6. Section 462A.7, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2005,
- 28 are amended to read as follows:
- 29 1. The operator of a vessel involved in a-collision;
- 30 accident-or-other-casualty an occurrence that results in
- 31 personal property damage or that results in the injury or
- 32 <u>death of a person</u> shall, so far as possible without serious
- 33 danger to the operator's own vessel, crew or passengers,
- 34 render to other persons affected by the collision, accident-or
- 35 casualty occurrence, such assistance as may be practicable and

- 1 necessary to save them from or minimize any danger caused by
- 2 the collision, accident-or-other-casualty occurrence. The
- 3 operator shall also give the operator's name, address, and
- 4 identification of the operator's vessel in writing to any
- 5 person injured and to the owner of any property damaged in the
- 6 collision, -accident-or-other-casualty occurrence.
- Whenever any vessel is involved in a-collision;
- 8 accident-or-casualty an occurrence that results in personal
- 9 property damage or that results in the injury or death of a
- 10 person, except one which results only in property damage not
- 11 exceeding five-hundred two thousand dollars, a report thereof
- 12 shall be filed with the commission. The report shall be filed
- 13 by the operator of the vessel and shall contain such
- 14 information as the commission may, by rule, require. The
- 15 report shall be submitted without-delay within forty-eight
- 16 hours of the occurrence in death or disappearance cases and in
- 17 occurrences that result in personal injuries requiring more
- 18 than first aid treatment, and within five days of the
- 19 occurrence in all other cases.
- 20 Sec. 7. Section 462A.9, Code 2005, is amended by adding
- 21 the following new subsection:
- 22 NEW SUBSECTION. 12A. An owner of a personal watercraft
- 23 equipped with a cut-off switch shall maintain the cut-off
- 24 switch and the accompanying cut-off switch lanyard in an
- 25 operable, fully functional condition.
- Sec. 8. Section 462A.12, Code 2005, is amended by adding
- 27 the following new subsections:
- NEW SUBSECTION. 14. A person shall not operate a personal
- 29 watercraft that is equipped with a cut-off switch, at any
- 30 time, without first attaching the accompanying cut-off switch
- 31 lanyard to the operator's person while the engine is running
- 32 and the personal watercraft is in use.
- NEW SUBSECTION. 15. A person shall not operate a vessel
- 34 on the waters of this state unless every person on board the
- 35 vessel who is under thirteen years of age is wearing a type I,

- 1 II, III, or V personal flotation device that is approved by
- 2 the United States coast guard, while the vessel is under way.
- 3 This subsection does not apply to a person who is under
- 4 thirteen years of age and is in an enclosed cabin or below
- 5 deck.
- 6 Sec. 9. Section 481A.55, subsection 1, Code 2005, is
- 7 amended to read as follows:
- 8 1. Except as otherwise provided, a person shall not buy or
- 9 sell, dead or alive, a bird or animal or any part of one which
- 10 is protected by this chapter, but this section does not apply
- 11 to fur-bearing animals, bones of wild turkeys that were
- 12 legally taken, and the skins, plumage, and antlers of legally
- 13 taken game. This section does not prohibit the purchase of
- 14 jackrabbits from sources outside this state. A person shall
- 15 not purchase, sell, barter, or offer to purchase, sell, or
- 16 barter for millinery or ornamental use the feathers of
- 17 migratory game birds; and a person shall not purchase, sell,
- 18 barter, or offer to purchase, sell, or barter mounted
- 19 specimens of migratory game birds.
- Sec. 10. Section 481A.123, Code 2005, is amended by adding
- 21 the following new subsection:
- 22 NEW SUBSECTION. 5. This section does not apply to the
- 23 discharge of a firearm on a farm unit by the owner or tenant
- 24 of the farm unit or by a family member of the owner or tenant
- 25 of the farm unit.
- As used in this subsection, "family member", "farm unit",
- 27 "owner", and "tenant" mean the same as defined in section
- 28 483A.24, subsection 2.
- 29 Sec. 11. Section 481A.130, subsection 1, paragraph q, Code
- 30 2005, is amended to read as follows:
- 31 g. For each antlered deer, reimbursement shall be based on
- 32 the point score of the antlered deer as measured by the Boone
- 33 and Crockett club's net scoring system for whitetail deer as
- 34 follows:
- 35 (1) 150 gross points or less: A minimum of two thousand

- 1 dollars and not more than five thousand dollars, and eighty
- 2 hours of community service or, in lieu of the community
- 3 service, a minimum of four thousand dollars and not more than
- 4 ten thousand dollars, in an amount that is deemed reasonable
- 5 by the court.
- 6 (2) More than 150 gross points: A minimum of five
- 7 thousand dollars and not more than ten thousand dollars, and
- 8 eighty hours of community service or, in lieu of the community
- 9 service, a minimum of ten thousand dollars and not more than
- 10 twenty thousand dollars, in an amount that is deemed
- 11 reasonable by the court.
- 12 Sec. 12. Section 481A.133, Code 2005, is amended to read
- 13 as follows:
- 14 481A.133 SUSPENSION OF LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, AND
- 15 PERMITS.
- 16 A person who is assessed damages pursuant to section
- 17 481A.130 shall immediately surrender all licenses,
- 18 certificates, and permits to hunt, fish, or trap in the state
- 19 to the department. The licenses, permits, and certificates,
- 20 and the privileges associated with them shall remain suspended
- 21 until the assessed damages and any accrued interest are paid
- 22 or-a-payment-schedule-is-established-by-the-court in full.
- 23 Upon payment of the assessed damages and any accrued interest,
- 24 the suspension shall be lifted. #f-a-payment-schedule-is
- 25 established, -the-suspension-shall-be-lifted-and-remain-so
- 26 unless-the-person-fails-to-make-a-payment-pursuant-to-that
- 27 schedule---Failure-to-make-a-payment-shall-cause-the
- 28 suspension-to-be-renewed. Interest shall begin to accrue as
- 29 of the date of judgment at a rate of ten percent per year.
- 30 Sec. 13. Section 483A.27, subsections 1 and 7, Code 2005,
- 31 are amended to read as follows:
- 32 1. A person born after January 1, ±967 1972, shall not
- 33 obtain a hunting license unless the person has satisfactorily
- 34 completed a hunter safety and ethics education course approved
- 35 by the commission. A person who is eleven years of age or

- 1 more may enroll in an approved hunter safety and ethics
- 2 education course, but a person who is eleven years of age and
- 3 who has successfully completed the course shall be issued a
- 4 certificate of completion which becomes valid on the person's
- 5 twelfth birthday. A certificate of completion from an
- 6 approved hunter safety and ethics education course issued in
- 7 this state since 1960, by another state, or by a foreign
- 8 nation, is valid for the requirements of this section.
- 9 7. A hunting license obtained under this section by a
- 10 person who gave false information or presented a fraudulent
- 11 certificate of completion shall be revoked and a new hunting
- 12 license shall not be issued for at least two years from the
- 13 date of conviction. A hunting license obtained by a person
- 14 who was born after January 1, 1967 1972, but has not
- 15 satisfactorily completed the hunter safety and ethics
- 16 education course or has not met the requirements established
- 17 by the commission, shall be revoked.
- 18 EXPLANATION
- 19 This bill contains provisions relating to the regulation of
- 20 various conservation and recreation activities under the
- 21 purview of the department of natural resources.
- 22 Code section 455A.4 is amended by striking the provision
- 23 that requires the department of natural resources to submit a
- 24 report every five years to the natural resource commission
- 25 that includes information concerning the classification of the
- 26 state's parks, recreation areas, and preserves and any
- 27 recommendations for reclassification; methods for maintaining
- 28 the diversity of animal and plant life in state parks,
- 29 recreation areas, and preserves; options to achieve controlled
- 30 deer hunting in order to prevent overpopulation of deer; and
- 31 prevention of economic damage to private property which is
- 32 located adjacent to state parks, recreation areas, and
- 33 preserves.
- Code section 456A.37 is amended to identify and define
- 35 additional species as "aquatic invasive species" by rule

1 without the subsequent codification of the definitions by the

- 2 general assembly at the next regular session.
- 3 Code section 461A.25 is amended by allowing the director of
- 4 the department of natural resources to execute leases of
- 5 property under the natural resource commission's jurisdiction
- 6 for periods of five years or less, with the approval of the
- 7 commission. The bill also provides that for leases of such
- 8 property in excess of five years the commission shall
- 9 advertise and may accept bids and approve leases that the
- 10 commission determines are in the best interests of the state.
- 11 Code section 462A.2 is amended to define a "cut-off switch"
- 12 as an operable factory-installed or dealer-installed emergency
- 13 cut-off engine stop switch that is installed on a personal
- 14 watercraft and to define a "cut-off switch lanyard" as the
- 15 cord used to attach the person of the operator of a personal
- 16 watercraft to the cut-off switch.
- 17 Code section 462A.7 is amended to provide that the owner of
- 18 a vessel shall give assistance, so far as possible, and
- 19 provide the vessel operator's name, address, and vessel
- 20 identification to any person who is injured or whose property
- 21 is damaged when the operator's vessel is involved in an
- 22 occurrence that results in personal property damage or that
- 23 results in the injury or death of a person. Code section
- 24 462A.7 is also amended to provide that when any vessel is
- 25 involved in such an occurrence, except one which results only
- 26 in property damage not exceeding \$2,000, a report must be
- 27 filed with the natural resource commission by the operator of
- 28 the vessel involved. Previously, a report had to be filed
- 29 when the property damage exceeded \$500. The report must be
- 30 filed within 48 hours of the occurrence when a person dies or
- 31 disappears or when a person suffers an injury requiring more
- 32 than first aid treatment. In all other cases, the report must
- 33 be filed within five days of the occurrence.
- 34 Code section 462A.9 is amended to provide that the owner of
- 35 a personal watercraft equipped with a cut-off switch must

- 1 maintain the cut-off switch and the accompanying cut-off
- 2 switch lanyard in an operable, fully functional condition. A
- 3 violation of this new provision is punishable by a scheduled
- 4 fine of \$20 under Code section 805.8B.
- 5 Code section 462A.12 is amended to prohibit a person from
- 6 operating a personal watercraft that is equipped with a cut-
- 7 off switch, at any time, without first attaching the
- 8 accompanying cut-off switch lanyard to the operator's person
- 9 while the engine is running and the personal watercraft is in
- 10 use. A violation of this provision is punishable by a
- 11 scheduled fine of \$25.
- 12 Code section 462A.12 is amended to prohibit a person from
- 13 operating a vessel on the waters of this state unless every
- 14 person on board the vessel who is under 13 years of age is
- 15 wearing a type I, II, III, or V personal flotation device that
- 16 is approved by the United States coast guard, while the vessel
- 17 is under way. This provision does not apply to a person under
- 18 13 years of age who is in an enclosed cabin or below deck. A
- 19 violation of this provision is punishable by a scheduled fine
- 20 of \$25.
- 21 Code section 481A.55 is amended to allow a person to buy or
- 22 sell the bones of wild turkeys that were legally taken. A
- 23 violation of this provision is punishable by a scheduled fine
- 24 of \$50.
- 25 Code section 481A.130 is amended to specify that damages
- 26 for illegally taking an antlered deer are based on the Boone
- 27 and Crockett club scoring system of gross points for whitetail
- 28 deer.
- 29 Code section 481A.133 is amended to provide that when a
- 30 person is assessed damages for unlawfully selling, taking,
- 31 catching, killing, injuring, destroying, or possessing an
- 32 animal, the person's licenses, certificates, and permits are
- 33 suspended until payment in full of the assessed damages and
- 34 accrued interest. The bill removes the option that allowed a
- 35 person to pay damages pursuant to a payment schedule. The

1 bill also specifies that interest begins to accrue as of the 2 date of judgment at a rate of 10 percent per year. Code section 483A.27 is amended to provide that a person 4 born after January 1, 1972, instead of January 1, 1967, must 5 complete a hunter safety and ethics education course before 6 obtaining a hunting license and that a hunting license 7 obtained by a such a person who has not completed the required 8 course shall be revoked. A violation of these provisions is 9 punishable by a scheduled fine of \$20.

SENATE FILE 367

H-8368

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Amend Senate File 367, as amended, passed, and
 2 reprinted by the Senate, as follows:
      1. By striking page 1, line 1, through page 2,
 4 line 26.
      2. Page 2, by inserting before line 27, the
 6 following:
             . Section 462A.5, subsection 1,
 8 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code Supplement 2005, is
 9 amended to read as follows:
      The owner of each vessel required to be numbered by
11 this state shall register it every three years with
12 the department through the county recorder of the
13 county in which the owner resides, or, if the owner is
14 a nonresident, the owner shall register it in the
15 county in which such vessel is principally used.
16 department shall develop and maintain an electronic
17 system for the registration of vessels pursuant to
18 this chapter. The commission shall have supervisory
19 responsibility over department shall establish forms
20 and procedures as necessary for the registration of
21 all vessels and shall provide each county recorder
22 with registration forms and certificates and shall
23 allocate identification numbers to each county.
     Sec. . Section 462A.5, subsection 3, unnumbered
24
25 paragraph 2, Code Supplement 2005, is amended to read
26 as follows:
27
     Every registration certificate and number issued
28 becomes delinquent at midnight April 30 of the last
29 calendar year of the registration period unless
30 terminated or discontinued in accordance with this
31 chapter. After January 1, 2007, an unregistered
32 vessel and a renewal of registration may be registered
33 for the three-year registration period beginning May 1
34 of that year. When unregistered vessels are
35 registered after May 1 of the second year of the
36 three-year registration period, such unregistered
37 vessels may be registered for the remainder of the
38 current registration period at sixty-six percent two-
39 thirds of the appropriate registration fee. When
40 unregistered vessels are registered after May 1 of the
41 third year of the three-year registration period, such
42 unregistered vessels may be registered for the
43 remainder of the current registration period at
44 thirty-three percent one-third of the appropriate
45 registration fee."
46
     3. Page 3, by inserting after line 19, the
47 following:
     "Sec. _.
                 Section 462A.43, Code 2005, is amended
49 to read as follows:
     462A.43 TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP.
H-8368
                        -1-
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H-8368

Page 2

- 1 Upon the transfer of ownership of any vessel, the
- 2 owner, except as otherwise provided by this chapter,
- 3 shall complete the form on the back of the
- 4 registration certificate and shall deliver it to the
- 5 purchaser or transferee at the time of delivering the
- 6 vessel. All registrations must be valid for the
- 7 current registration period prior to the transfer of
- 8 any registration, including assignment to a dealer.
- 9 If a vessel has an expired registration at the time of
- 10 transfer, the transferee shall pay all applicable fees
- 11 for the current registration period, the appropriate
- 12 writing fee, and a penalty of five dollars, and a
- 13 transfer of number shall be awarded in the same manner
- 14 as provided for an original registration."
- 4. By striking page 3, line 20, through page 4,
- 16 line 5.
- 5. Title page, line 3, by striking the words
- 18 "modifying fees,".

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES RAYHONS of Hancock, Chairperson

H-8368 FILED MARCH 23, 2006

SENATE FILE 367

H-8385

- Amend the Committee amendment, H-8368, to Senate 2 File 367, as amended, passed, and reprinted by the 3 Senate, as follows:
- 4 1. Page 2, by striking line 16 and inserting the 5 following: "line 5, and inserting the following:
- 6 "Sec. ___. Section 462A.12, Code Supplement 2005,
- 7 is amended by adding the following new subsection:
- 8 NEW SUBSECTION. 14. A person shall not operate a
- 9 vessel on the waters of this state under the
- 10 jurisdiction of the commission unless every person on
- 11 board the vessel who is under thirteen years of age is
- 12 wearing a type I, II, III, or V personal flotation
- 13 device, including "float coats" that meet this
- 14 definition, that is approved by the United States
- 15 coast guard, while the vessel is under way. This
- 16 subsection does not apply when the person under
- 17 thirteen years of age is in an enclosed cabin or below
- 18 deck, or is a passenger on a commercial vessel with a
- 19 passenger capacity of twenty-five persons or more."
- 20 ____. Page 6, by inserting after line 17, the 21 following:
- 22 "Sec. . WARNING CITATIONS -- TWELVE-MONTH
- 23 PERIOD. During the twelve-month period beginning on
- 24 the effective date of this section of this Act, peace
- 25 officers shall issue only warning citations for
- 26 violations of section 462A.12, new subsection 14, as 27 enacted by this Act.
- 28 Sec. ___. EFFECTIVE DATE. The sections of this
- 29 Act creating new section 462A.12, subsection 14, and
- 30 providing for warning citations for violations of that
- 31 provision, being deemed of immediate importance, take
- 32 effect upon enactment.""
- 2. Page 2, line 18, by inserting after the word
- 34 "fees," the following: "and providing an effective
- 35 date".
- 36 3. By renumbering as necessary.

By FREVERT of Palo Alto REICHERT of Muscatine

H-8385 FILED MARCH 27, 2006

Dearden Co-Chair Johnson Co-Chair Seng Kettering

Succeeded By SFY HF 367

Natival Resources

SENATE/HOUSE FILE							
BY	(PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF						
	NATURAL RESOURCES BILL)						

Passed	Senate,	Date	Passed	House,	Date	
Vote:	Ayes	Nays	Vote:	Ayes	Nays	
	Ap	proved			_	

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to various conservation and recreation activities under the purview of the department of natural resources, modifying fees, and making penalties applicable. 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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S.F. _____ H.F. ____
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- 1 Section 1. Section 455A.4, subsection 1, paragraph j, Code
- 2 2005, is amended by striking the paragraph.
- 3 Sec. 2. Section 461A.25, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code
- 4 2005, is amended to read as follows:
- 5 The commission may recommend-that-the-executive-council
- 6 lease property under the commission's jurisdiction. All
- 7 leases shall reserve to the public of the state the right to
- 8 enter upon the property leased for any lawful purpose. The
- 9 council-may,-if-it-approves-the-recommendation-and-the If a
- 10 lease is to be entered into is for a period of five years or
- 11 less, the director, upon approval by the commission, shall
- 12 execute the lease in on behalf of the state and commission.
- 13 If the-recommendation-is-for a lease is to be entered into for
- 14 a period in excess of five years, with the exception of
- 15 agricultural lands specifically dealt with in Article I,
- 16 section 24, of the Constitution of the State of Iowa, the
- 17 council commission shall advertise for bids. If-a-bid-is
- 18 accepted, the lease shall be let or executed by the council in
- 19 accordance-with-the-most-desirable-bid. The commission may
- 20 accept bids and approve leases that the commission determines
- 21 are in the best interests of the state. A lease shall not be
- 22 executed for a term longer than fifty years. Any such
- 23 leasehold interest, including any improvements placed on it,
- 24 shall be listed on the tax rolls as provided in chapters 428
- 25 and 443; assessed and valued as provided in chapter 441; taxes
- 26 shall be levied on it as provided in chapter 444 and collected
- 27 as provided in chapter 445; and the leasehold interest is
- 28 subject to tax sale, redemption, and apportionment of taxes as
- 29 provided in chapters 446, 447 and 448. The lessee shall
- 30 discharge and pay all taxes.
- 31 Sec. 3. Section 462A.2, Code 2005, is amended by adding
- 32 the following new subsections:
- 33 NEW SUBSECTION. 8A. "Cut-off switch" means an operable
- 34 factory-installed or dealer-installed emergency cut-off engine
- 35 stop switch that is installed on a personal watercraft.

- 1 NEW SUBSECTION. 8B. "Cut-off switch lanyard" means the
- 2 cord used to attach the person of the operator of a personal
- 3 watercraft to the cut-off switch.
- 4 Sec. 4. Section 462A.7, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2005,
- 5 are amended to read as follows:
- 6 l. The operator of a vessel involved in a-collision,
- 7 accident-or-other-casualty an occurrence that results in
- 8 personal property damage or that results in the injury or
- 9 death of a person shall, so far as possible without serious
- 10 danger to the operator's own vessel, crew or passengers,
- 11 render to other persons affected by the collision, accident-or
- 12 casualty occurrence, such assistance as may be practicable and
- 13 necessary to save them from or minimize any danger caused by
- 14 the collision, -accident-or-other-casualty occurrence. The
- 15 operator shall also give the operator's name, address, and
- 16 identification of the operator's vessel in writing to any
- 17 person injured and to the owner of any property damaged in the
- 18 collision, -accident-or-other-casualty occurrence.
- 19 2. Whenever any vessel is involved in a-collision,
- 20 accident-or-casualty an occurrence that results in personal
- 21 property damage or that results in the injury or death of a
- 22 person, except one which results only in property damage not
- 23 exceeding five-hundred two thousand dollars, a report thereof
- 24 shall be filed with the commission. The report shall be filed
- 25 by the operator of the vessel and shall contain such
- 26 information as the commission may, by rule, require. The
- 27 report shall be submitted without-delay within forty-eight
- 28 hours of the occurrence in death or disappearance cases and in
- 29 occurrences that result in personal injuries requiring more
- 30 than first aid treatment, and within five days of the
- 31 occurrence in all other cases.
- 32 Sec. 5. Section 462A.9, Code 2005, is amended by adding
- 33 the following new subsection:
- 34 NEW SUBSECTION. 12A. An owner of a personal watercraft
- 35 equipped with a cut-off switch shall maintain the cut-off

- 1 switch and the accompanying cut-off switch lanyard in an
- 2 operable, fully functional condition.
- 3 Sec. 6. Section 462A.12, Code 2005, is amended by adding
- 4 the following new subsections:
- 5 NEW SUBSECTION. 14. A person shall not operate a personal
- 6 watercraft that is equipped with a cut-off switch, at any
- 7 time, without first attaching the accompanying cut-off switch
- 8 lanyard to the operator's person while the engine is running
- 9 and the personal watercraft is in use.
- 10 NEW SUBSECTION. 15. A person shall not operate a vessel
- 11 on the waters of this state unless every person on board the
- 12 vessel who is under thirteen years of age is wearing a type I,
- 13 II, III, or V personal flotation device that is approved by
- 14 the United States coast guard, while the vessel is under way.
- 15 This subsection does not apply to a person who is under
- 16 thirteen years of age and is in an enclosed cabin or below
- 17 deck.
- 18 Sec. 7. Section 481A.133, Code 2005, is amended to read as
- 19 follows:
- 20 481A.133 SUSPENSION OF LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, AND
- 21 PERMITS.
- 22 A person who is assessed damages pursuant to section
- 23 481A.130 shall immediately surrender all licenses,
- 24 certificates, and permits to hunt, fish, or trap in the state
- 25 to the department. The licenses, permits, and certificates,
- 26 and the privileges associated with them shall remain suspended
- 27 until the assessed damages and any accrued interest are paid
- 28 or-a-payment-schedule-is-established-by-the-court in full.
- 29 Upon payment of the assessed damages and any accrued interest,
- 30 the suspension shall be lifted. #f-a-payment-schedule-is
- 31 established, the suspension shall be lifted and remain so
- 32 unless-the-person-fails-to-make-a-payment-pursuant-to-that
- 33 schedule:---Failure-to-make-a-payment-shall-cause-the
- 34 suspension-to-be-renewed. Interest shall begin to accrue as
- 35 of the date of judgment at a rate of ten percent per year.

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S.F. H.F.
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- 1 Sec. 8. Section 483A.27, subsections 1 and 7, Code 2005,
- 2 are amended to read as follows:
- 3 1. A person born after January 1, ±967 1972, shall not
- 4 obtain a hunting license unless the person has satisfactorily
- 5 completed a hunter safety and ethics education course approved
- 6 by the commission. A person who is eleven years of age or
- 7 more may enroll in an approved hunter safety and ethics
- 8 education course, but a person who is eleven years of age and
- 9 who has successfully completed the course shall be issued a
- 10 certificate of completion which becomes valid on the person's
- 11 twelfth birthday. A certificate of completion from an
- 12 approved hunter safety and ethics education course issued in
- 13 this state since 1960, by another state, or by a foreign
- 14 nation, is valid for the requirements of this section.
- 7. A hunting license obtained under this section by a
- 16 person who gave false information or presented a fraudulent
- 17 certificate of completion shall be revoked and a new hunting
- 18 license shall not be issued for at least two years from the
- 19 date of conviction. A hunting license obtained by a person
- 20 who was born after January 1, 1967 1972, but has not
- 21 satisfactorily completed the hunter safety and ethics
- 22 education course or has not met the requirements established
- 23 by the commission, shall be revoked.
- 24 EXPLANATION
- 25 This bill contains provisions relating to the regulation of
- 26 various conservation and recreation activities under the
- 27 purview of the department of natural resources.
- 28 Code section 455A.4 is amended by striking the provision
- 29 that requires the department of natural resources to submit a
- 30 report every five years to the natural resource commission
- 31 that includes information concerning the classification of the
- 32 state's parks, recreation areas, and preserves and any
- 33 recommendations for reclassification; methods for maintaining
- 34 the diversity of animal and plant life in state parks,
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- 1 deer hunting in order to prevent overpopulation of deer; and
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- 3 located adjacent to state parks, recreation areas, and
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- 6 the department of natural resources to execute leases of
- 7 property under the natural resource commission's jurisdiction
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- 10 property in excess of five years the commission shall
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- 14 as an operable factory-installed or dealer-installed emergency
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- 16 watercraft and to define a "cut-off switch lanyard" as the
- 17 cord used to attach the person of the operator of a personal
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- 20 a vessel shall give assistance, so far as possible, and
- 21 provide the vessel operator's name, address, and vessel
- 22 identification to any person who is injured or whose property
- 23 is damaged when the operator's vessel is involved in an
- 24 occurrence that results in personal property damage or that
- 25 results in the injury or death of a person. Code section
- 26 462A.7 is also amended to provide that when any vessel is
- 27 involved in such an occurrence, except one which results only
- 28 in property damage not exceeding \$2,000, a report must be
- 29 filed with the natural resource commission by the operator of
- 30 the vessel involved. Previously, a report had to be filed
- 31 when the property damage exceeded \$500. The report must be
- 32 filed within 48 hours of the occurrence when a person dies or
- 33 disappears or when a person suffers an injury requiring more
- 34 than first aid treatment. In all other cases, the report must
- 35 be filed within five days of the occurrence.

- 1 Code section 462A.9 is amended to provide that the owner of
- 2 a personal watercraft equipped with a cut-off switch must
- 3 maintain the cut-off switch and the accompanying cut-off
- 4 switch lanyard in an operable, fully functional condition. A
- 5 violation of this new provision is punishable by a scheduled
- 6 fine of \$20 under Code section 805.8B.
- 7 Code section 462A.12 is amended to prohibit a person from
- 8 operating a personal watercraft that is equipped with a cut-
- 9 off switch, at any time, without first attaching the
- 10 accompanying cut-off switch lanyard to the operator's person
- 11 while the engine is running and the personal watercraft is in
- 12 use. A violation of this provision is punishable by a
- 13 scheduled fine of \$25.
- 14 Code section 462A.12 is amended to prohibit a person from
- 15 operating a vessel on the waters of this state unless every
- 16 person on board the vessel who is under 13 years of age is
- 17 wearing a type I, II, III, or V personal flotation device that
- 18 is approved by the United States coast guard, while the vessel
- 19 is under way. This provision does not apply to a person under
- 20 13 years of age who is in an enclosed cabin or below deck. A
- 21 violation of this provision is punishable by a scheduled fine
- 22 of \$25.
- 23 Code section 481A.133 is amended to provide that when a
- 24 person is assessed damages for unlawfully selling, taking,
- 25 catching, killing, injuring, destroying, or possessing an
- 26 animal, the person's licenses, certificates, and permits are
- 27 suspended until payment in full of the assessed damages and
- 28 accrued interest. The bill removes the option that allowed a
- 29 person to pay damages pursuant to a payment schedule. The
- 30 bill also specifies that interest begins to accrue as of the
- 31 date of judgment at a rate of 10 percent per year.
- 32 Code section 483A.27 is amended to provide that a person
- 33 born after January 1, 1972, instead of January 1, 1967, must
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S.F. _____ H.F. ____
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STATE OF IOWA

THOMAS J. VILSACK, GOVERNOR SALLY J. PEDERSON, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

JEFFREY R. VONK, DIRECTOR

To:

General Assembly

From:

Jeffrey R. Vonk, Director

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Date:

January 19, 2005

Re:

Technical and Corrective Conservation & Recreation Code Changes

The department proposes to amend seven Code sections to "clean up" administrative procedures, and bring the department in line with other states and federal agencies concerning recreational safety requirements.

The seven changes include the following:

- Rescinds the requirement of a report to the Natural Resource Commission on deer damage to parks, recreation areas and preserves every five years. This requirement began in 1992, and was established to maintain diversity of animal and plant life in these areas and determine economic damage to private property adjacent to these areas. Two separate annual reports include the information in this requirement: "Trends in lowa Wildlife Populations and Harvest," and the annual report from the depredation program. Also, during the 1997 legislative session, an amendment to the lowa Code was passed removing the statutory restriction on firearms in state parks, allowing the department to establish special population-control hunts in state parks without first seeking reclassification of that park as a state recreation area. (Most lowa State Preserves already allow hunting). That same year the wild animal depredation unit was established by code. Biologists, park managers and adjacent landowners now identify where and when there is a need to reduce deer populations to address deer damage through the deer depredation program, thereby helping protect biological diversity in these areas.
- Allows the department director to enter into certain leases with Natural Resource Commission approval.
 This allows the department director authority to enter into leases under the same procedures established for agricultural leases and easements with political subdivisions or utilities.
- Increases reportable boating damage incidents from \$500 to \$2,000. This aligns with federal law, and addresses the fact that it doesn't take much of a collision for a boat to have more than \$500 of damage.
- Adds the requirement of safety cut-off switches for personal watercraft (PWC), also known as jet skis.
 This is generally a lanyard that attaches a switch on the PWC to the operator, either around the wrist or attached to the life jacket. If the operator falls off the machine, the engine is stopped.
- Requires personal flotation devices when boating for children under 13. This improves child safety, and brings lowa in line with the rest of the states and federal regulations.
- Strengthens hunting and fishing license suspension requirements. This requires that assessed damages be paid in full prior to restoring license privileges. Many violators make the first payments, regain license privileges and never pay remaining damages.
- Changes hunter education requirements needed to obtain a hunting license from 1967 to 1972. The
 department is unable to accurately account for all hunter education records for the first five years of the
 program. Records are available from 1972 on, instead of 1967 on.