

Senate File 521 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 521
BY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 290)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to goose hunting on private property.
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 481A.5, Code 2019, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 3. Additional hunting restrictions caused
4 by the establishment of a refuge area for any wild goose shall
5 not apply to a person hunting on private property during any
6 established goose hunting season except that private property
7 located within a closed area adjacent to a wild goose refuge
8 area shall not be used to allow goose hunting for profit.

9 Sec. 2. Section 481A.7, Code 2019, is amended to read as
10 follows:

11 **481A.7 Hunting on game refuges.**

12 1. ~~It~~ Except as provided in section 481A.5, subsection 3, it
13 shall be unlawful to hunt, pursue, kill, trap or take any wild
14 animal, bird, or game on any state game refuge so established
15 at any time of the year, and no one shall carry firearms
16 thereon, providing, however, that predatory birds and animals
17 may be killed or trapped under the authority and direction of
18 the director.

19 2. The commission may specify the distance from a state game
20 refuge where shooting is prohibited, and shall have notice of
21 same posted at such distance in conspicuous places around the
22 refuge, provided, however, this prohibition shall not apply to
23 ~~owners or tenants~~ a person hunting on ~~their own land outside~~
24 ~~of a state game refuge~~ private property. The commission may
25 prohibit shooting at any reasonable distance from a state game
26 refuge deemed necessary to accomplish the purposes for which
27 the refuge is established.

28 Sec. 3. Section 481A.39, Code 2019, is amended to read as
29 follows:

30 **481A.39 Biological balance maintained.**

31 1. The commission is designated the sole agency to determine
32 the facts as to whether biological balance does or does not
33 exist. The commission shall, by administrative rule, extend,
34 shorten, open, or close seasons and set, increase, or reduce
35 catch limits, bag limits, size limits, possession limits, or

1 territorial limitations or further regulate taking conditions
2 in accordance with sound fish and wildlife management
3 principles.

4 2. Additional hunting restrictions caused by the
5 establishment of a restricted area for any wild goose, pursuant
6 to subsection 1 of this section, shall not apply to a person
7 hunting on private property during any established goose
8 hunting season.

9 EXPLANATION

10 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
11 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

12 This bill relates to goose hunting on private property.

13 Current law allows the department of natural resources to
14 establish state game refuges on any land owned by the state
15 to effect sound wildlife management, among other reasons. In
16 establishing a game refuge, the department may promulgate rules
17 that restrict hunting on private property.

18 The bill exempts a person hunting on private property from
19 additional restrictions caused by the establishment of a refuge
20 area or restricted area for any wild goose except that private
21 property located within a closed area adjacent to a wild goose
22 refuge area shall not be used to allow hunting for profit.

23 A person hunting on private property must still adhere to
24 other hunting restrictions that would exist regardless of the
25 establishment of a refuge area or restricted area for any wild
26 goose.