

House File 22 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 22

BY JACOBY

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the hunting of black bears, and making
2 penalties applicable.

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

1 Section 1. Section 481A.1, subsection 21, Code 2021, is
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *i.* Ursus americanus, the American black
4 bear.

5 Sec. 2. Section 481A.48, subsection 1, Code 2021, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 1. A person, except as otherwise provided by law, shall
8 not willfully disturb, pursue, shoot, kill, take or attempt
9 to take, or have in possession any of the following game
10 birds or animals except within the open season established
11 by the commission: gray or fox squirrel, bobwhite quail,
12 cottontail or jackrabbit, duck, snipe, pheasant, goose,
13 woodcock, partridge, mourning dove, coot, rail, ruffed grouse,
14 wild turkey, pigeon, black bear, or deer. The seasons, bag
15 limits, possession limits, and locality shall be established by
16 the department or commission under the authority of sections
17 456A.24, 481A.38, and 481A.39.

18 Sec. 3. Section 481A.130, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code
19 2021, is amended to read as follows:

20 *a.* For each black bear, elk, antelope, buffalo, or moose,
21 two thousand five hundred dollars.

22 EXPLANATION

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

25 This bill relates to the hunting of black bears. The bill
26 designates black bears as a game animal. The bill prohibits a
27 person from willfully disturbing, pursuing, shooting, killing,
28 taking or attempting to take, or having in possession a black
29 bear outside of an open season established by the natural
30 resource commission. The commission may allow for the hunting
31 of black bears subject to limitations the commission imposes.

32 A violation of the bill is subject to a scheduled fine
33 dependent on the matter of the offense relating to an unlawful
34 take or attempt to take. Additionally, a person who is
35 convicted of taking a black bear in violation of the bill

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1 shall pay civil damages in the amount of \$2,500. A black bear
2 taken in violation of the provisions of the bill is subject to
3 seizure by the director of the department of natural resources.