

House File 866 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 866
BY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 254)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to open season exceptions for taking geese.
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 481A.87, subsection 3, Code 2025, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 3. Prior permission is not required for an owner or tenant of
4 agricultural property or an associated residence located outside
5 the corporate limits of a city to take, capture using a cage trap
6 or dog-proof trap, shoot, or temporarily possess, for the purpose
7 of destroying or disposing of, a raccoon, opossum, any species of
8 goose, or skunk on the property if the owner or tenant in good
9 faith deems the animal to be a nuisance. This subsection does
10 not apply to animals listed pursuant to the federal Endangered
11 Species Act or listed as endangered by the commission pursuant to
12 section 481B.3.

13 EXPLANATION

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

16 This bill relates to open season exceptions for taking geese.
17 Under current law, an owner or tenant of agricultural property
18 or an associated residence located outside the corporate limits
19 of the city may destroy or dispose through certain allowable
20 methods any raccoon, opossum, or skunk on the property without
21 prior permission if the owner or tenant in good faith deems the
22 animal to be a nuisance, regardless of whether it is an open
23 season for taking the animal. The bill adds geese to the list
24 of animals that may be taken outside of an open hunting season
25 when deemed a nuisance. Certain species of geese are federally
26 protected under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act. A person
27 who violates the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act may be subject
28 to penalties under federal law.