HOUSE FILE 2455
BY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 657)
(SUCCESSOR TO HF 363)

(As Amended and Passed by the House March 4, 2020)

[= New Language by the House
* = Language Stricken by the House

A BILL FOR

An Act allowing the use of a leashed dog to track and retrieve a wounded deer and providing a penalty.

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

Section 1. NEW SECTION. **481A.56A Retrieval of wounded deer by leashed dogs.**

A person having a valid hunting license and a valid deer hunting license who has wounded a deer while hunting may use a dog to track and retrieve the wounded deer. A dog being used for tracking a wounded deer and a person using a dog for tracking a wounded deer shall both be trained in deer blood tracking. Any person using a dog for tracking wounded deer must maintain physical control of the dog at all times during the search by means of a maximum fifty-foot lead attached to the dog's collar or harness. The person may dispatch the deer using a legal method of take authorized by the person's deer hunting license. A person shall not use that method of take to hunt, wound, or kill any animal other than the deer that the hunter is tracking, except in self-defense. Using a dog to track a wounded deer on private property is permissible at * any hour with consent of the property owner. A person using a dog to track a wounded deer outside of legal deer hunting hours shall not be in possession of a firearm or archery device. The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to implement this section.

Sec. 2. Section 805.8B, subsection 3, Code 2020, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

NEW PARAGRAPH. *r.* For violations of section 481A.56A, the scheduled fine is two hundred fifty dollars.