

House File 175 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 175
BY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 89)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the taking 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 20, Code 2023, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 20. "*Fur-bearing animals*" means the following, which
4 are declared to be fur-bearing animals for the purpose of
5 regulation and protection under the Code: black bear, beaver,
6 badger, mink, otter, muskrat, raccoon, skunk, opossum, spotted
7 skunk or civet cat, weasel, coyote, bobcat, wolf, groundhog,
8 red fox, and gray fox. **This chapter** does not apply to
9 domesticated fur-bearing animals.

10 Sec. 2. Section 481A.130, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code
11 2023, is amended to read as follows:

12 a. For each black bear, elk, antelope, buffalo, or moose,
13 two thousand five hundred dollars.

14 EXPLANATION

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

17 This bill relates to the taking of black bears. The bill
18 designates black bears as a fur-bearing animal. The natural
19 resource commission may allow for the hunting or trapping of
20 black bears upon the acquisition of a fur-harvester license and
21 subject to limitations the commission imposes by rule.

22 A person who unlawfully takes a black bear is subject
23 to a scheduled fine dependent on the matter of the offense
24 relating to an unlawful take or attempt to take. Additionally,
25 a person who is convicted of unlawfully taking a black bear
26 shall pay civil damages in the amount of \$2,500. A black bear
27 taken unlawfully is subject to seizure by the director of the
28 department of natural resources.