



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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SMALL-GAME HUNTING LICENSES

House Bill 4531

Sponsor: Rep. James McNutt

Committee: Conservation, Environment
and Great Lakes Affairs

Complete to 4-13-93

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4531 AS INTRODUCED 3-23-93

Currently, under the Hunting and Fishing License Act, a small game license is required for the hunting of all protected game birds and game animals, with the exception of bear, deer, elk and moose; a fur harvester's license is required for the trapping or hunting of those fur-bearing animals that are restricted under the act. In addition, a nonresident of the state may be issued a nonresident fur harvester's license, provided that equivalent hunting and trapping privileges are allowed in the state, province, or country in which the nonresident resides. House Bill 4531 would strike from the act various references to hunting fur-bearing animals, and specifically the provision which says that a fur harvester's license is not required to hunt a fur-bearing animal if the hunting of that animal otherwise is not restricted by law. Thus, the bill would require someone who specifically wanted to hunt non-protected fur-bearing animals to purchase and possess a small-game hunting license. In addition, the bill would amend the act to increase the resident small game license fee from \$9.50 to \$10.

The act currently defines "small game" to mean all species of protected game birds and game animals, except bear, deer, elk and moose. The bill would include in this definition "fur-bearing animals," which under the act includes badger, beaver, bobcat, coyote, fisher, fox, lynx, marten, mink, muskrat, opossum, otter, raccoon, skunk, weasel and wolf.

MCL 316.108, 316.305 and 316.314

House Bill 4531 (4-13-93)