WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1951

ENROLLED Committee Substitute for SENATE BILL NO. 243

(By Mr....)

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COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

Senate Bill No. 243

[Passed March 7, 1951; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section three, article four, chapter twenty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to hunting deer, report to director, tagging and penalties.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section three, article four, chapter twenty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Section 3. Hunting Deer; Report to Director; Tagging;

- 2 Penalties.—No person shall hunt, capture or kill any deer
- 3 in this state, except in open season, or as provided under
- 4 section three-b of this article. A licensed person may hunt
- 5 or kill deer of any type, antlerless or otherwise, during

- 6 the open season fixed by the conservation commission of
- 7 West Virginia for the counties or parts thereof. Antler-
- 8 less deer seasons may be established by the conservation
- 9 commission when deemed advisable due to over-popula-
- 10 tion of deer, extreme crop damage, unbalanced sex ratios,
- 11 or other unusual conditions in various counties or parts
- 12 thereof. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a
- 13 licensed owner of deer which are kept in a park or field
- 14 sufficiently enclosed to prevent escape therefrom, as pro-
- 15 vided by article three, section twelve-a of this chapter.
- 16 No person shall:
- 17 (1) Kill more than one deer in any one calendar year;
- 18 (2) Have in his possession the fresh skin or any other
- 19 part of an illegally killed doe, fawn or buck deer;
- 20 (3) Chase or hunt deer with dogs, or kill or attempt to
- 21 kill a deer that is being chased by, or is fleeing from
- 22 dogs;
- 23 (4) Attempt to catch or kill, or catch or kill any deer by
- 24 means of poison baits, salt lick, (natural or artificial) trap
- 25 or snare, or devices of any kind;

- 26 (5) Hunt, pursue, catch or kill a deer between sunset
- 27 on one day and sunrise of the next day;
- 28 (6) Kill, attempt to kill or wound a deer while the deer
- 29 is in a stream, lake or pond;
- 30 (7) Participate further in the hunt after having killed
- 31 the legal limit of deer if he or she has firearms of any de-
- 32 scription in his or her possession;
- 33 (8) Hunt deer with any gun other than a shot gun
- 34 using ammunition loaded with more than one solid ball,
- 35 or rifle using rim fire ammunition of less than twenty-five
- 36 calibre.
- 37 A person who kills or wounds a deer by accident, such
- 38 as striking it with an automobile, or has knowledge that a
- 39 deer is in distress for any reason whatever, shall promptly
- 40 notify a conservation officer or other proper officer of the
- 41 fact.
- 42 Any person who kills a legal deer during the open sea-
- 43 son shall deliver same for inspection and tagging to a
- 44 conservation officer or an official checking station set up
- 45 for that purpose by the commission during the open deer
- 46 season. The deer shall not be dressed (other than hog-

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dressed) before it is presented to a conservation officer or 47 48 official checking station for inspection; nor shall such deer be tagged unless the head is attached in a natural way 49 to the carcass of said deer, except as is otherwise provided 50 in this section. The checking station attendant or con-51 52 servation officer upon inspecting the deer shall supply 53 the hunter with an official tag which shall be securely attached to the head of the deer before the deer is re-54 moved from said station. The official tag shall bear the 55 name and address of the hunter and such other informa-56 57 tion as the director may designate and shall be countersigned by the checking station attendant or other duly 58 authorized agent of the director. The official tag shall 59 remain attached to the head of the deer until the animal 60 61 is dressed, and thereafter with the head or skin until the 62 close of the deer hunting season. 63 An exception to the above outlined tagging procedure is made in that one deer per hunting camp may be com-64 65 pletely dressed at camp for camp use, provided a deer camp use permit is affixed to the head as outlined above in 67 this section before starting to skin the deer. The skin and

68 head to which the deer camp use permit is attached

69 shall be presented to either a conservation officer or to an

70 official checking station to be tagged and inspected before

71 the close of the open deer season in which the kill was

72 made.

73 The deer camp use permit shall bear the name and

74 address of the hunter who killed the deer and such other

75 information as the director may designate. Such permits

76 may be obtained on application to the director or his

77 authorized agent. The application for such permits shall

78 give a roster showing the names and addresses of all

79 licensed hunters who are to occupy the camp, the name

80 and specific location of the camp, and the name of the

81 county in which the camp is to be located.

82 Any person who violates any of the provisions of this

83 section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon

84 conviction, shall be fined not less than one hundred nor

85 more than three hundred dollars, and confined in the

86 county jail not less than thirty days: Provided, however,

87 That any person who kills a deer illegally during the

88 open season thereafter, and voluntarily reports same to a

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89 conservation officer or other officer, shall be fined not

90 less than fifty dollars nor more than one hundred dollars.

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