

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1963

ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 129

(By Mr. Gainer)

PASSED July 27- 1963

In Effect July 1-1963 Passage

Filed in Office of the Secretary of State
of West Virginia 3-9-63
JOE F. BURDETT
SECRETARY OF STATE

129

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Senate Bill No. 129

(By MR. GAINER)

[Passed February 27, 1963; in effect July 1, 1963.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section fifty-four, article two, chapter twenty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to license for privately-owned commercial shooting preserves.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section fifty-four, article two, 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 54. License for Privately-Owned Commercial

- 2 Shooting Preserves.**—1. The director may issue a license
3 for privately-owned commercial shooting preserves to any
4 person who meets the following requirements:
5 (a) Each commercial shooting preserve shall contain

6 a minimum of three hundred acres in one tract of leased
7 or owned land (including water area, if any) and shall
8 be restricted to no more than three thousand contiguous
9 acres (including water area, if any), except that pre-
10 serves confined to the releasing of ducks only shall be
11 authorized to operate with a minimum of fifty contiguous
12 acres (including water area); and

13 (b) The exterior boundaries of each commercial shoot-
14 ing preserve shall be clearly defined and posted with
15 signs erected around the extremity at intervals of one
16 hundred fifty yards or less.

17 2. The director shall designate the game which may be
18 hunted under this section on which a more liberal season
19 may be allowed.

20 3. The operating licenses or permits issued by the di-
21 rector shall entitle holders thereof, and their guests or
22 customers, to recover not more than eighty per cent of
23 the total number of each species of game bird released
24 on the premises each year, except mallard, black duck,
25 ringnecked pheasant, chukar partridge, and other non-

26 native game species upon which a one hundred per cent
27 recovery may be allowed.

28 4. Except for the required compliance with the re-
29 striction on the maximum number of released birds that
30 may be recovered from each preserve each year, as pro-
31 vided in subsections three and eight, shooting preserve
32 operators may establish their own shooting limitations and
33 restrictions on the age, sex and number of birds that may
34 be taken by each person.

35 5. In order to give a reasonable opportunity for a fair
36 return on a sizeable investment, a liberal season shall be
37 designated by the director during the six-month period,
38 beginning October first and ending March thirty-first.

39 6. All harvested game shall be tagged prior to being
40 either consumed on the premises or removed therefrom,
41 such tags to remain affixed until the game actually is
42 delivered to the point of consumption. The director shall
43 furnish numbered tags at nominal cost to shooting pre-
44 serve operators.

45 7. Each shooting preserve operator shall maintain a
46 registration book listing all names, addresses, and hunt-

47 ing license numbers of all shooters; the date on which they
48 hunted; the amount of game and the species taken; and
49 the tag numbers affixed to each carcass. An accurate rec-
50 ord likewise must be maintained of the total number, by
51 species, of game birds and ducks raised and/or purchased,
52 and the date and number of all species released. These
53 records shall be open to inspection by a delegated repre-
54 sentative of the director at any reasonable time, and shall
55 be the basis upon which the game recovery limits in sub-
56 section three hereof shall be determined.

57 8. Any wild game found on commercial shooting pre-
58 serves may be harvested in accordance with applicable
59 game and hunting laws pertaining to open seasons, bag
60 and possession limits, and so forth, as are established
61 regularly by the director and the United States fish and
62 wildlife service.

63 9. State hunting licenses shall be required of all per-
64 sons, except nonresidents, hunting or shooting on shooting
65 preserves.

66 10. The fee for such commercial shooting preserve li-
67 cense shall be fifty dollars per fiscal year for the first

68 three hundred acres of the shooting preserve area, plus
69 twenty-five dollars per fiscal year for each additional
70 three hundred acres or part thereof.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

[Handwritten Signature]
Chairman Senate Committee

[Handwritten Signature]
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

Takes effect July 1-1963 passage.

[Handwritten Signature]
Clerk of the Senate

[Handwritten Signature]
Clerk of the House of Delegates

[Handwritten Signature]
President of the Senate

[Handwritten Signature]
Speaker House of Delegates

The within Approved this the 8th
day of March, 1963.

[Handwritten Signature]
Governor

