

23:4-24

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST
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(Animals--humane treatment)

NJSA: 23:4-24
LAWS OF: 1996 CHAPTER: 97
BILL NO: S720
SPONSOR(S): Zane

DATE INTRODUCED: February 15, 1996

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: ---
SENATE: Law & Public Safety

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: June 17, 1996
SENATE: June 13, 1996

DATE OF APPROVAL: August 6, 1996

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT: Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes
SENATE: Yes

FISCAL NOTE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:
REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

KBP:pp

P.L. 1996, CHAPTER 97, *approved August 6, 1996*
Senate No. 720

1 AN ACT concerning the use of firearms while trapping on Sundays and
2 amending R.S.23:4-24.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. R.S.23:4-24 is amended to read as follows:

8 23:4-24. No person shall hunt with a hound or with firearms or
9 weapons of any kind, or carry a gun in the woods or fields or on the
10 waters on Sunday, under a penalty of \$20.00 for each offense; except
11 that this section shall not apply to any person hunting raccoon between
12 midnight on Saturday and sunrise on Sunday during the season
13 prescribed in section 23:4-1 of this Title or to a person possessing a
14 valid and proper rifle permit licensed to trap fur-bearing animals
15 pursuant to the provisions of R.S.23:3-1 using a .22 caliber rifle and
16 .22 caliber short rimfire cartridges to humanely dispatch legally
17 trapped animals. This section shall not prevent farm land owners,
18 lessees actually occupying or farming the land, members of their
19 immediate families, or their farm employees from hunting and
20 destroying at any time and in any manner crows, woodchuck, fox and
21 vermin on that land.

22 (cf: P.L.1959, c.71, s.1)

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24 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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29 This bill amends R.S.23:4-24, a statute that prohibits hunting on
30 Sundays, to permit persons licensed to trap fur-bearing animals
31 pursuant to the provisions of R.S.23:3-1, to use a .22 caliber rifle with
32 .22 caliber short rimfire cartridges to shoot and kill legally trapped
33 animals on Sundays. The bill requires the animal be killed in a humane
34 manner.

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 Under current law, trapping is permitted every day of the week and
2 the use of firearms in the field is permitted every day except Sundays.
3 Consequently, trappers are unable to dispatch trapped animals on
4 Sundays in the most humane fashion, which is with a firearm. Under
5 the provisions of the bill, trappers would be able to use firearms and
6 ammunition of limited power on Sundays only for that purpose.

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12 Permits use of .22 short cartridge by trappers on Sundays.

SENATE, No. 720

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 15, 1996

By Senator ZANE

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SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 720

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 9, 1996

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 720. This bill permits persons licensed to trap fur-bearing animals under R.S.23:3-1 to use a .22 caliber rifle with .22 caliber short rimfire cartridges to shoot and kill legally trapped animals on Sundays. The bill requires the animal be killed in a humane manner.

Under current law, trapping is permitted every day of the week and the use of firearms in the field is permitted every day except Sundays. Consequently, trappers are unable to dispatch trapped animals on Sundays in the most humane fashion, which is with a firearm. Under the provisions of the bill, trappers would be able to use firearms and ammunition of limited power on Sundays only for that purpose.