

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
SEPTEMBER 20, 2007

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Penmor Lithographers
Lewiston, Maine
2007

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §12261 is enacted to read:
§12261. Beagle clubs; trapping snowshoe hares

The commissioner may issue a license to an organization recognized as a beagle club by the commissioner to take live snowshoe hares.

1. License required. Except as otherwise authorized pursuant to this Part, a beagle club may not trap a snowshoe hare without a valid license issued under this section.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged.

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.

2. Traps labeled and checked daily. A beagle club may not set a trap for a snowshoe hare unless that trap is plainly labeled with the name of the beagle club and the telephone number of a contact person and is checked at least once every calendar day.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged.

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.

3. Use of snowshoe hares. A snowshoe hare trapped pursuant to this section may not be used for anything other than to stock the running areas of the licensee and may not be given to any other beagle club or entity.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged.

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.

4. Transport out of State. A snowshoe hare trapped pursuant to this section may not be transported out of the State.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged.

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.

5. Trapping season for snowshoe hares. A beagle club may not trap for snowshoe hares except between September 1st and April 30th of each calendar year.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged.

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.

6. Cottontail rabbits. A beagle club may not keep and must release immediately a cottontail rabbit caught in a trap.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged.

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.

7. Reporting of trapped cottontail rabbits. As a condition of licensure under this section, a beagle club shall file with the department no later than July 1st of each calendar year a report of cottontail rabbits trapped pursuant to this section.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

Effective April 12, 2007.

CHAPTER 46

S.P. 187 - L.D. 596

**An Act To Repeal the Laws
Governing Long-term Foster
Care**

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of
Maine as follows:**

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4064, as amended by PL 1997, c. 39, §1, is repealed.

See title page for effective date.
