

LEGISLATURE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

FILE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No.

638

Session of
1919.

INTRODUCED BY MR. BRENDLE, FEBRUARY 25, 1919.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAME, FEBRUARY 25, 1919.

AN ACT

Creating a reward or bounty for the destruction of certain wild birds killed within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania providing the method of furnishing evidence of said destruction and penalties for the violation of the several provisions hereof

1 Section 1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Repre-*
2 *sentatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly*
3 *met and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same That*
4 a reward or bounty shall be paid by this Commonwealth
5 for the killing within the Commonwealth only of the fol-
6 lowing wild birds for each goshawk sharp shinned hawk
7 cooper hawk red-tailed hawk red shouldered hawk broad-
8 winged hawk marsh hawk rough-legged hawk duck hawk
9 pigeon hawk barred owl great horned owl snowy owl
10 and hawk owl the sum of one dollar

11 Section 2 Any person who having killed within this
12 Commonwealth one or more of the birds named in section
13 one of this act and being desirous of securing the re-

1 ward or bounty named for such killing as fixed by sec-
2 tion one of this act shall produce the head of such
3 slain bird before any game protector or any justice of
4 the peace or alderman or magistrate within this Common-
5 wealth and shall make affidavit that he or some member
6 of his family naming such person killed the same—naming
7 it—stating clearly the approximate time of such killing
8 and the fact that the place where such bird was killed
9 —naming it—was within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
10 and that such bird was not reared in captivity

11 (a) Upon the production of the head of such bird
12 and the making of such affidavit before a game protector
13 such official shall in the presence of the party making
14 such affidavit shall cut off the beak and destroy the
15 head of such bird and shall fill out in the name of
16 the party making such affidavit a certificate directed to
17 the Secretary of the Board of Game Commissioners at
18 Harrisburg setting forth clearly the fact that the provis-
19 ions of this act have been complied with giving the
20 name of the bird killed the name of the person killing
21 it the approximate time it was killed and as nearly as
22 possible the name of the place and county within the
23 Commonwealth where it was thus killed and that such
24 bird was not reared in captivity and the said game
25 protector shall forward to the office of the Secretary of
26 the Board of Game Commissioners at Harrisburg the said
27 certificate

28 (b) Where the affidavit required by this act is made
29 before a justice of the peace or alderman or magistrate

1 such official shall include in one affidavit all claims for
2 bounty that may be made by one person at one time
3 not to exceed five and shall receive in full for services
4 rendered a fee of twenty-five cents where but one bird is
5 named in such affidavit Where more than one bird is
6 named in one affidavit the fee shall be fifty cents such
7 fee in all cases to be paid by the claimant for bounty
8 The affidavit shall preferably be made upon forms to be
9 provided by the Board of Game Commissioners on demand
10 by any justice of the peace or alderman or magistrate
11 within this Commonwealth and all affidavits of this char-
12 acter shall in all cases clearly set forth the name of
13 the bird killed for which a bounty is claimed the name
14 of the person killing same, the approximate time when
15 such bird was killed and as nearly as possible the name
16 of the place and county within this Commonwealth where
17 same was killed and that such bird was not reared in
18 captivity Upon the completion of such affidavit and the
19 payment of the fee as above stated the justice of the
20 peace or alderman or magistrate shall deliver said affidavit
21 and head brought before him to the claimant for bounty
22 who shall as soon as may be forward such affidavit
23 and the head of the bird or birds for the killing of
24 which a bounty is claimed and named in such affidavit
25 to the Secretary of the Board of Game Commissioners at
26 Harrisburg It shall be the duty of the justice of the
27 peace or alderman or magistrate before whom any claim
28 for bounty is made to examine all heads presented to
29 him so that he may judge of the legality of the claim

1 made but such official shall not cut off the beak or in
2 any manner mutilate same

3 Section 3 Upon the receipt of such affidavit or such
4 certificate or both in proper form the Secretary of the
5 Board of Game Commissioners being satisfied that the
6 heads presented to him are the heads of birds for the
7 killing of which a bounty is offered by this act and
8 that such claims are in all respects legitimate shall de-
9 stroy the heads so received and shall at least once a
10 month draw his requisition upon the Auditor General in
11 favor of the persons named in said affidavits or cer-
12 tificates received by him for the amount to which each
13 claimant may be entitled in the manner provided by law
14 for the payment of rewards or bounties for the destruc-
15 tion of certain noxious animals

16 Section 4 The game protectors of the Commonwealth
17 of Pennsylvania are hereby authorized and empowered to
18 administer the oath necessary to the proving of the claims
19 made as provided by the section two of this act but
20 no charge for administering such oath is to be made
21 by any of said game protectors

22 Section 5 No person shall at any time be paid a
23 bounty for the killing of any bird named in this act
24 the beak of which is cut off before presenting to the
25 persons authorized to take affidavits under the provisions
26 of this act and no person shall at any time collect or
27 attempt to collect a second bounty for the killing of
28 any bird under the provisions of this act or shall at-
29 tempt to collect such bounty through the presentation of

1 the head of a bird not named in this act or through
2 deception of any character and it shall be unlawful for
3 any person in this Commonwealth to present for the pur-
4 pose of securing the bounty provided for by this act the
5 head of a bird that has been reared in captivity or
6 the head of a bird killed or captured outside of this
7 Commonwealth Each and every person who shall wilfully
8 or fraudulently collect or attempt to collect any reward or
9 bounty provided for by this act to which he or they
10 are not legally entitled under the provisions of this act
11 or shall aid or abet or assist in any capacity of-
12 ficial or otherwise in an attempt to defraud the State
13 through the collection or payment of any reward or
14 bounty provided for by this act shall be guilty of a
15 misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall in addition
16 to the penalty that may be imposed for perjury where a
17 false affidavit is made be sentenced to pay to the Com-
18 monwealth of Pennsylvania a fine of not less than one
19 hundred or more than five hundred dollars or in default
20 of the payment thereof with costs shall suffer an im-
21 prisonment in the common jail of the county in which
22 the affidavit is made for a period of one day in jail
23 for each dollar of fine imposed and unpaid

24 Section 6 All acts and parts of acts inconsistent
25 with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed