

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Increase the Penalty for Allowing Wildlife in Captivity To Escape in Violation of a Permit Requirement'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §12151, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2015, c. 374, §§3 and 4, is further amended to read:

2. Penalties. ~~The~~Except as provided in section 12152, subsection 7, the following penalties apply to violations of this section.

A. A person who violates subsection 1 commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$500 may be adjudged.

B. A person who violates subsection 1 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.

C. The department may seize fish or wildlife in accordance with sections 10502 and 10503 from a person who violates subsection 1.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §12152, sub-§7 is enacted to read:

7. Escaped wildlife prohibition; penalty. A person may not allow wildlife in captivity to escape that person's possession or control in violation of:

A. Rules adopted pursuant to subsection 5; or

B. An additional permit condition or requirement assigned pursuant to subsection 6.

Notwithstanding section 12151, subsection 2, a person who violates this subsection commits a Class E crime.'

SUMMARY

This amendment changes the title and replaces the bill. The bill provides that a permit is required to import exotic wildlife or possess wildlife in the State or receive exotic wildlife and stipulates the requirements for that permit. The amendment provides that a person who allows wildlife in captivity to escape that person's possession or control in violation of rules governing keeping wildlife in captivity or an additional permit condition or requirement commits a Class E crime.