

1 An Act Valuing our Natural Resources

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3 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority*
4 *of the same, as follows:*

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6 Section 1. Chapter 131 of the Massachusetts General Laws is hereby amended by striking
7 the first and second paragraphs of Section 80A in their entirety and inserting in place
8 thereof the following:

9 Section 80A. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a person shall not use,
10 set, place ~~or maintain any trap for the purpose of capturing furbearing mammals, except~~
11 for common type mouse and rat traps, nets, and box or cage type traps, as otherwise
12 permitted by law. A box or cage type trap is one that confines the whole animal without
13 grasping any part of the animal, including Hancock or Bailey’s type live trap for beavers.
14 Other than nets and common type mouse or rat traps, traps designed to capture and hold a
15 furbearing mammal by gripping the mammal’s body, or body part are prohibited,
16 including steel jaw leghold traps, padded leghold traps, and snares.

Deleted: ,
Deleted: , manufacture or possess

17 The above provision shall not apply to the use of prohibited devices by federal and state
18 departments of health, wildlife management agencies or divisions or municipal boards of
19 health for the purpose of protection from threats to human health and safety or for the
20 management of furbearing wildlife during their established regulated seasons. The uses
21 of prohibited devices are subject to the regulations and restrictions promulgated by the
22 Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife. A threat to human health and safety may
23 include, but shall not be limited to: