

CHAPTER 124**(SB 83)**

AN ACT relating to fish and wildlife.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. KRS 150.390 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) No person shall possess, take, pursue, or attempt to take or pursue or otherwise molest any wild elk, deer, wild turkey, or bear in any manner contrary to any provisions of this chapter or its regulations.
- (2) No person shall use a dog to chase or molest wild elk or deer in any manner, at any time, or at any place. Any conservation officer, peace officer, sheriff, or constable may take necessary steps to stop, prevent, or bring under control any dog or dogs found chasing or molesting wild elk or deer at any time.
- (3) The department shall establish by administrative regulation the conditions under which depredation permits may be issued without cost to persons suffering damage from wild elk to allow the taking of wild elk.
- (4) If Kentucky's wild elk population reaches a level that will sustain limited hunting, the department may establish by administrative regulations the conditions and permits that would allow the controlled taking of wild elk.
- (5) ***The department shall identify areas where deer and elk pose a significant threat to agriculture or to health and human safety from automobile accidents and may take necessary steps to reduce the deer and elk population in those areas. Methods to reduce the deer and elk population may include but are not limited to the following:***
 - (a) ***Special hunts;***
 - (b) ***Increasing the doe harvest; and***
 - (c) ***Working with the Transportation Cabinet to make vegetation along highways unpalatable to deer and elk.***

Signed by Governor March 27, 2017.