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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SIXTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. 559

February 5, 2009

Authored by Howes

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment Policy and Oversight

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to game and fish; modifying provisions for using artificial lights to locate
1.3 animals; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 97B.081, subdivision 2.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 97B.081, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

1.6 Subd. 2. **Without firearms.** (a) ~~Between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.~~

1.7 From September 1 to December 31, a person may not cast the rays of a spotlight,
1.8 headlight, or other artificial light in a field, woodland, or forest to spot, locate, or take a
1.9 wild animal except to take raccoons under section 97B.621, subdivision 3, or to tend traps
1.10 under section 97B.931.

1.11 (b) Between one-half hour after sunset until sunrise, a person may not cast the rays
1.12 of a spotlight, headlight, or other artificial light to spot, locate, or take a wild animal on
1.13 fenced, agricultural land containing livestock, as defined in section 17A.03, subdivision 5,
1.14 or poultry that is marked with signs prohibiting the shining of lights. The signs must:

1.15 (1) display reflectorized letters that are at least two inches in height and state "no
1.16 shining" or similar terms; and

1.17 (2) be placed at intervals of 1,000 feet or less along the boundary of the area.

1.18 (c) It is not a violation of paragraph (a) or (b) for a person to carry out any
1.19 agricultural, occupational, or recreational practice, including snowmobiling that is not
1.20 related to spotting, locating, or taking a wild animal.

1.21 (d) Between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., a person may not project a
1.22 spotlight or handheld light onto residential property or building sites from a moving motor
1.23 vehicle being operated on land, except for the following purposes:

1.24 (1) safety;

- 2.1 (2) emergency response;
- 2.2 (3) normal vehicle operations; or
- 2.3 (4) performing an occupational duty.