

SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

S.F. No. 3385

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DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/31/2016	5426	Introduction and first reading Referred to Environment and Energy

1.1 A bill for an act  
 1.2 relating to game and fish; modifying night vision possession restrictions;  
 1.3 amending Minnesota Statutes 2014, sections 97B.045, subdivision 3; 97B.086.

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

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 97B.045, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

1.6 Subd. 3. **Exceptions; hunting and shooting ranges.** (a) Notwithstanding  
 1.7 provisions to the contrary under this chapter, a person may transport an unloaded, uncased  
 1.8 firearm, excluding a pistol as defined in paragraph (b), in a motor vehicle while at a  
 1.9 shooting range, as defined under section 87A.01, subdivision 3, where the person has  
 1.10 received permission from the lawful owner or possessor to discharge firearms; lawfully  
 1.11 hunting on private or public land; or travelling to or from a site the person intends to hunt  
 1.12 lawfully that day or has hunted lawfully that day, unless:

- 1.13 (1) within Anoka, Hennepin, or Ramsey County;
- 1.14 (2) within the boundaries of a home rule charter or statutory city with a population  
 1.15 of 2,500 or more;
- 1.16 (3) on school grounds; or
- 1.17 (4) otherwise restricted under section 97A.091; or 97B.081, ~~or 97B.086~~.

1.18 (b) For the purposes of this section, a "pistol" includes a weapon designed to be fired  
 1.19 by the use of a single hand and with an overall length less than 26 inches, or having a  
 1.20 barrel or barrels of a length less than 18 inches in the case of a shotgun or having a barrel  
 1.21 of a length less than 16 inches in the case of a rifle:

- 1.22 (1) from which may be fired or ejected one or more solid projectiles by means  
 1.23 of a cartridge or shell or by the action of an explosive or the igniting of flammable or  
 1.24 explosive substances; or

2.1 (2) for which the propelling force is a spring, elastic band, carbon dioxide, air or  
2.2 other gas, or vapor.

2.3 Pistol does not include a device firing or ejecting a shot measuring .18 of an inch, or less,  
2.4 in diameter and commonly known as a "BB gun," a scuba gun, a stud gun or nail gun used  
2.5 in the construction industry, or children's pop guns or toys.

2.6 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 97B.086, is amended to read:

2.7 **97B.086 ~~POSSESSION OF~~ HUNTING WITH NIGHT VISION OR THERMAL**  
2.8 **IMAGING EQUIPMENT PROHIBITED.**

2.9 (a) A person may not possess night vision or thermal imaging equipment while  
2.10 taking protected wild animals ~~or while having in possession, either individually or as~~  
2.11 ~~one of a group of persons, a firearm, bow, or other implement that could be used to take~~  
2.12 ~~wild animals.~~

2.13 (b) ~~This section does not apply to a firearm that is:~~

2.14 (1) ~~unloaded;~~

2.15 (2) ~~in a gun case expressly made to contain a firearm that fully encloses the firearm~~  
2.16 ~~by being zipped, snapped, buckled, tied, or otherwise fastened without any portion of~~  
2.17 ~~the firearm exposed; and~~

2.18 (3) ~~in the closed trunk of a motor vehicle.~~

2.19 (c) ~~This section does not apply to a bow that is:~~

2.20 (1) ~~completely encased or unstrung; and~~

2.21 (2) ~~in the closed trunk of a motor vehicle.~~

2.22 (d) ~~If the motor vehicle under paragraph (b) or (c) does not have a trunk, the firearm~~  
2.23 ~~or bow must be placed in the rearmost location of the vehicle.~~

2.24 (e) (b) This section does not apply to night vision or thermal imaging equipment  
2.25 possessed by peace officers or military personnel while exercising their duties.