

**SENATE**  
**STATE OF MINNESOTA**  
**NINETY-FIRST SESSION**

**S.F. No. 3631**

(SENATE AUTHORS: WIGER)

DATE  
02/27/2020

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5018

Introduction and first reading

OFFICIAL STATUS

Referred to Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
 1.2 relating to game and fish; modifying penalties for gross overlimits; providing  
 1.3 criminal penalties; amending Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 97A.338.

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

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 97A.338, is amended to read:

1.6 **97A.338 GROSS OVERLIMITS OF WILD ANIMALS; PENALTY.**

1.7 (a) A person who takes, possesses, or transports wild animals ~~over the legal limit, in~~  
 1.8 ~~closed season, or without a valid license,~~ in violation of the game and fish laws when the  
 1.9 restitution value of the wild animals is ~~over \$1,000~~ or more but less than \$2,000 is guilty  
 1.10 of a gross overlimit violation. Except as provided in paragraph ~~(b)~~ (c), a violation under  
 1.11 this paragraph is a gross misdemeanor.

1.12 (b) A person who takes, possesses, or transports wild animals in violation of the game  
 1.13 and fish laws when the restitution value of the wild animals is \$2,000 or more is guilty of  
 1.14 a felony gross overlimit violation. Except as provided in paragraph (c), a violation under  
 1.15 this paragraph is a felony.

1.16 (c) If a wild animal involved in a gross overlimit violation is listed as a threatened or  
 1.17 endangered wild animal, the penalty in paragraph (a) does penalties in paragraphs (a) and  
 1.18 (b) do not apply unless more than one animal is taken, possessed, or transported in violation  
 1.19 of the game and fish laws.