

## Bay State Strategies (BSSG) Monthly Report to MCA

July 2021

- BSSG commenced engagement with MCA on July 1. The most immediate objectives were 2 MCA identified Budget priorities pending in the FY22 State Budget Conference Committee and offered by the Senate. BSSG urgently went to work, consistent with the work already underway by MCA members and others, to help facilitate a successful outcome for these priorities.
- BSSG contacted a number appropriate and influential Legislators and staff to advocate on behalf of these measures. Both measures were successfully included in the FY22 final budget. While BSSG was pleased to be able to be a part of this success, much credit goes to many involved prior to BSSG's engagement.
- BSSG has had several conversations with members, staff and others relative to MCA's general priority issues and bills. These conversations have informed BSSG on the current thinking, as well as prior history related to these priority issues.
- While we await a more refined list of bill priorities from MCA, BSSG has requested and anticipates meaningful discussion on these matters. We expect to schedule meetings after the Labor Day holiday with key Committee Chairs and members.
- As you are likely aware, the Legislature effectively goes into recess for the month of August through the Labor Day holiday. They will return in September and continue to schedule Committee hearings and begin to advance certain legislation. They will again break around the December holidays and return after the New Year.
- The State House remains closed due to the Covid pandemic. The most recent expectation was that it would open between Labor Day and October 1<sup>st</sup>, but the new variants may delay this even further. More to follow on this as it develops.
- Below is a list of bills that we are tracking (**Going forward I will eliminate the bill summary sections to reduce the report size**)

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### ***HB851 (HD271) - An Act preserving open space in the Commonwealth***

**Sponsor:** Rep. Ruth B. Balseer (D)

**Summary:** Requires that petitions for changing the use or disposing of land under [Article 97](#) of the Massachusetts Constitution be accompanied by an analysis of alternatives and an identification and dedication of replacement land; allows the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs to waive the requirement for replacement land for transfers between public entities without a use change.

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**Last** 08/05/2021

**Action:**

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S - Referred to Senate Committee on Ways and Means

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**HB899 (HD1678) - An Act relative to the control of tick-borne illness**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Carolyn C. Dykema (D)

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**Summary:** Amends various sections of [GL Chapter 252](#) to expand the name and purpose of the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board to the State Reclamation, Mosquito and Tick Control Board; authorizes this Board to investigate tick management techniques to protect the public against tick-borne disease by making and publishing surveys of land with high rates of tick-borne disease and, upon request of a municipality, the Board may implement tick management techniques in that municipality and; changes the name of the Mosquito and Greenhead Fly Control Fund to the Mosquito, Greenhead Fly and Tick Control Fund.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB912 (HD2871) - An Act relative to forest protection**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Michael J. Finn (D)

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**Summary:** Establishes a Forest Reserves Scientific Advisory Council to advise the Department of Environmental Management in promulgating regulations on forest reserves; requires the participation of scientist of a variety of fields in DCR's development of watershed management plans; promulgates new definitions in GL 131:1 for parks and reserves (the latter barring modification for the creation of scenic vistas, fields, or wildlife clearings); prohibits the sale or lease of land designated as a park or reserve; prohibits the use of pesticides and herbicides by the Bureau of Forestry except where a clear threat to public health is determined by DPH; prohibits the siting of energy, communications, and industrial infrastructure on forest land; prohibits the sale of timber from public forest land.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB913 (HD4056) - An Act relative to beavers**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Paul K. Frost (R)

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**Summary:** Repeals [GL 131:80A](#), which prohibits the use of any trap, including steel jaw leg hold traps, padded leg hold traps, and snares, for the purpose of capturing fur-bearing animals, except for box or cage type traps.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB914 (HD4061) - An Act authorizing the use of bow and arrows for Sunday hunting**

**Sponsor:** Rep. Paul K. Frost (R)

**Summary:** Amends [GL 131:57](#), the statute designating Sunday as a closed hunting season, to repeal the prohibition on hunting birds or mammals with a bow and arrow on those days.

**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB965 (HD1592) - An Act prohibiting the sale of fur products**

**Sponsor:** Rep. Jack Patrick Lewis (D)

**Summary:** Adds new GL chapter 110I to prohibit (with some exceptions) the sale of fur products.

**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB974 (HD2977) - An Act protecting the natural resources of the commonwealth**

**Sponsor:** Rep. Leonard Mirra (R)

**Summary:** Establishes the Public Lands Preservation Act under a new GL 131B; requires any public owner proposing a change in use for lands acquired or taken by eminent domain for conservation purposes to mitigate the loss by paying for or providing for replacement land; outlines other procedures and requirements for converting such land; additionally provides that a waiver for such requirements may be granted in particular cases that meet certain enumerated criteria, including continued but different and temporary environmentally friendly projects, use changes in a limited portion of the land that doesn't impact most conservation use and transfer to another owner who will continue the conservation use; requires the Secretary of Environmental Affairs to approve any proposed replacement land, and to submit written reports to the General Court on all legislation that proposes a use change in Article 97 land; establishes procedures for the sale, transfer, lease, or change of control of use of any Article 97 land held by a municipality, a state agency, a regional conservation district, or other public owner, including public notice and hearings prior to approval; requires public owners to provide notice of approved changes to the Secretary; directs the secretary of the executive office of energy and environmental affairs to establish relevant rules and regulations within one year of passage.

**Last** 06/09/2021

**Action:** H - Attached to favorable report by Joint Committee of [HB851](#)

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**HB976 (HD504) - An Act relative to the use of shotguns**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. David Muradian (R)

**Summary:** Amends [GL 131:66](#), the statute governing shotgun shells and load, to eliminate the explicit restrictions detailed therein and to instead grant authority over the rules and regulations for the use and possession of shotgun ammunition types for the purposes of hunting to the director of the division of fisheries and wildlife, under control of the board.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB977 (HD3878) - An Act relative to critical wildlife habitat management**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. David Muradian (R)

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB984 (HD915) - An Act relative to Sunday hunting**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Kelly Pease (R)

**Summary:** Repeals [GL 131:57](#), the statute prohibiting hunting on Sundays.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB991 (HD2393) - An Act relative to the use of crossbows in hunting**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. William Smitty Pignatelli (D)

**Summary:** Amends [GL Chapter 131](#) to allow the use of crossbows in hunting in accordance with regulations promulgated by the director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife; repeals existing prohibition against the use of such crossbows.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB1002 (HD3197) - An Act relative to increased protection of wildlife management areas**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Lindsay Sabadosa (D)

**Summary:** Amends GL 131 to direct the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife to set 30% of Wildlife Management Area aside as Nature Reserves; establishes a council to oversee the designation and management of the

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*reserves; requires the council file a biennial report on the reserves with the Governor; places new restrictions on the use of such land, such as prohibiting timber removal.*

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB1015 (HD1535) - An Act authorizing the use of bow and arrows for Sunday hunting**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. William M. Straus (D)

**Summary:** Amends [GL 131:57](#), the statute designating Sunday as a closed hunting season, to repeal the prohibition on hunting birds or mammals with a bow and arrow on those days.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB1016 (HD1559) - An Act authorizing permitting by the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. William M. Straus (D)

**Summary:** Amends [GL 131:80A](#), the statute governing leghold traps, to remove the requirement that users apply to receive permission to use such traps but requires that trappers have received proper instruction including trapper training courses, or has been issued a trapping license.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB1019 (HD767) - An Act authorizing deer hunting on Sunday**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Alyson Sullivan (R)

**Summary:** Amends [GL 131:57](#) to authorize the hunting of deer on Sundays during open deer hunting season.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB1022 (HD3820) - An Act conserving our natural resources**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. David T. Vieira (R)

**Summary:** Prohibits a person from using, setting, placing or maintaining any trap for the purpose of capturing furbearing mammals, except for common mouse and rat traps; describes other traps that are prohibited from being used for the aforementioned purpose; establishes that this provision will not apply to the use

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*of prohibited devices by federal and state departments and those divisions and agencies described herein.*

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB1023 (HD3828) - An Act relative to outdoor heritage**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. David T. Vieira (R)

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**Summary:** Amends various provisions relative to hunting of wildlife in the Commonwealth; repeals provisions requiring unloaded firearms, rifles or shotguns to be carried in a closed case; limits the requirement to carry firearms unloaded to public lands during the open season for deer, bear or turkey; exempts people with Class A or Class B firearms licenses from the requirement to carry them unloaded; allows the director of fisheries and wildlife to exercise powers all days of the week; establishes a right to fish and hunt in accordance with existing rules and regulations while free from harassment; prohibits the verbal or physical harassment of hunters or fishermen, driving away of wildlife, and otherwise harassing or intimidating people engaged in hunting and fishing; imposes fines and/or terms of imprisonment for such harassment; imposes fines and/or imprisonment for vandalizing equipment used in hunting and fishing, including blinds, fishing boats and fishing gear; imposes fines and imprisonment for causing bodily harm through harassment and vandalism related to hunting and fishing; imposes fines and imprisonment for posting a land as closed to hunting and fishing without the owners' consent; repeals provisions banning the use of bows or crossbows for hunting; repeals prohibitions against using certain types of shotgun ammunition, and instead allows the director of fisheries and wildlife to regulate permissible ammunition for hunting; permits the use of dogs in hunting upland game or waterfowl; repeals prohibitions against moose hunting; repeals prohibitions against carrying loaded shotguns or rifles.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB1024 (HD3832) - An Act relative to the use of crossbows in hunting**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. David T. Vieira (R)

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**Summary:** Amends GL 131 to allow the use of crossbows in hunting in accordance with regulations promulgated by the director of the division of fish and wildlife; repeals existing prohibition against the use of such crossbows.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB1026 (HD3854) - An Act to enhance the management of problem wildlife**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. David T. Vieira (R)

**Summary:** Amends provisions of GL 131:80A relative to leghold traps and certain other restricted devices by adding provisions that require any person issued a permit to report to the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, the name of the property owner, address of the property threatened by wildlife, the name of authorized agent, method used to alleviate the problem, and the number and species of animals taken pursuant to the permit.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB1029 (HD1795) - An Act relative to the use of shotgun ammunition for hunting**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Jonathan D. Zlotnik (D)

**Summary:** Amends [GL 131:66](#), the statute governing shotgun shells and load, to eliminate the explicit restrictions detailed therein and to simply state that such rules and regulations for the use and possession of shotgun ammunition types for the purposes of hunting are to be created by the director of the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife under control of the board.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB1030 (HD1797) - An Act relative to certain hunting zones**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Jonathan D. Zlotnik (D)

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB1430 (HD2802) - An Act relative to wildlife management areas and 40B structures**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Leonard Mirra (R)

**Summary:** Amends GL 40B:21 and GL 40B:23 by prohibiting local boards of appeals and the housing appeals committee from approving applications for comprehensive permits to build low or moderate income housing within 500 feet of wildlife management areas.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB1603 (HD1581) - An Act relative to duck hunting off the shores of Revere**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Jessica Giannino (D)

**Summary:** Prohibits any person from hunting fowl by firearm, arrow or other means on the tidelands or 1500 yards seaward from the shoreline at Revere Beach or the Point of Pines Beach in the city of Revere; imposes a fine between \$2,000 and \$5,000 for violation of such ban.

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**Last** 05/11/2021

**Action:** H - Hearing Scheduled  
[05/19/2021 10:00 AM - Public Hearing, Virtual Hearing](#)  
Judiciary

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**HB1662 (HD2707) - An Act increasing penalties for discharging a firearm into a dwelling, residence, or structure where persons reside**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Russell E. Holmes (D)

**Summary:** Adds two new sections to GL 269 (Crimes Against the Person) to establish criminal penalties for discharging a firearm and striking a dwelling, residence, or structure where any person or persons reside, whether or not the structure was actually occupied at the time or a public park or playground, public or private accredited preschool, accredited headstart facility, elementary, vocational, or secondary school, daycare facility, college, or university; exempts the lawful defense of life and property and any law enforcement officer acting in the discharge of his duties from these provisions.

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**Last** 07/20/2021

**Action:** H - Hearing Scheduled  
[07/27/2021 10:00 AM - Public Hearing, Virtual Hearing](#)  
Judiciary

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**HB1803 (HD1986) - An Act prohibiting gunfire directed at dwelling houses**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Rady Mom (D)

**Summary:** Adds a new Section 12G to [GL Chapter 269](#) to punish whoever discharges an assault weapon, firearm, large capacity weapon, machine gun, rifle, sawed-off shotgun, or shotgun, with the intent to strike a dwelling, and thereby strikes a dwelling by up to 2½ years in a house of correction or up to 5 years in state prison, or a fine not exceeding \$10,000, or by both such imprisonment and fine.

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**Last** 07/20/2021

**Action:** H - Hearing Scheduled  
[07/27/2021 10:00 AM - Public Hearing, Virtual Hearing](#)  
Judiciary

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**HB1934 (HD1796) - An Act updating hunter harassment laws**



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**Sponsor:** Rep. Jonathan D. Zlotnik (D)

**Summary:** Adds a new Section 5C to [GL Chapter 131](#) which guarantees the citizens of the commonwealth the right to harvest fish and wildlife free from harassment, subject to existing regulations; prohibits the obstruction, interfering with or preventing any lawful fishing or hunting where it is otherwise lawful; defines the listed behaviors as banned, including driving or disturbing fish or wildlife, blocking or impeding someone legally engaged in fishing or hunting, physical interference or trespass, and verbal harassment; imposes a term of imprisonment up to one year and/or a fine up to \$1,000; imposes a term of imprisonment up to two years and/or a fine up to \$5,000 for vandalism or destruction property used in legal fishing and hunting; imposes a term of imprisonment up to five years and/or a fine up to \$10,000 for causing bodily injury through harassment or vandalism intended to prevent hunting or fishing; prohibits posting private property as closed or restricted for hunting and fishing without the owner's permission; imposes a term of imprisonment up to one year and/or a fine up to \$1,000 for doing so; grants the superior court jurisdiction to enforce these rights; allows individuals hurt by violation of these rights to bring a civil action for damages; authorizes environmental and other police officers to enforce these provisions; deposits any fines collected into the Inland Fisheries and Game Fund to support the Hunter Education Program.

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**Last** 05/11/2021

**Action:** H - Hearing Scheduled  
[05/19/2021 10:00 AM - Public Hearing, Virtual Hearing](#)  
Judiciary

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#### **HB2437 (HD1841) - An Act relative to crime gun data reporting and analysis**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Marjorie Decker (D)

**Summary:** Directs the secretary of public safety to develop or solicit proposals for a university or nonprofit to develop a biennial report analyzing the firearms trace data and non-identifying gun sales transaction data held by the firearms records bureau; requires submission of the data by March 1 of every even-numbered year; requires inclusion of the listed information, including, but not limited to statistics related to firearms crimes, arrests and prosecutions of firearms-related offenses, and aggregate data on the source of firearms that have been confiscated and identified as being used in a crime or in an attempted or completed suicide during the report period.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** H - Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security

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#### **HB2487 (HD136) - An Act to require liability insurance for gun ownership**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. David Paul Linsky (D)

**Summary:** Adds a new Section 207 to [GL Chapter 140](#), which imposes a fine between \$500 and \$5,000 or imprisonment up to one year in a house of correction for possession, carrying or ownership of a firearm, rifle or shotgun without liability insurance or a liability bond; exempts temporary possession while at a

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licensed gun club from such penalties; directs the commissioner of insurance regulate minimum insurance requirements.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB2493 (HD1404) - An Act relative to weapon regulation**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Marc T. Lombardo (R)

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**Summary:** Exempts the sale or manufacture of weapons from laws prohibiting unfair or deceptive acts or practices in trade or business under [GL Chapter 93A](#).

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** H - Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security

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**HB2500 (HD69) - An Act relative to access to constitutional rights**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Joseph McKenna (R)

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**Summary:** Amends [GL Chapter 140](#) (Licenses) to significantly limit the collection of fingerprints when applying for or renewing firearms licenses.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** S - Concurred in committee referral

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**HB2523 (HD1119) - An Act relative to firearms and recreational vehicles**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Todd M. Smola (R)

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**Summary:** Amends [GL 90B:26](#) (limitations on operating recreational vehicles) to authorize those with a license to carry guns under [GL Chapter 131](#) and [Chapter 131F](#) to carry guns that are loaded and not in a case while operating such recreational vehicles.

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:** H - Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security

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**HB2874 (HD1813) - An Act establishing an excise tax on guns and ammunition**

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**Sponsor:** Rep. Mindy Domb (D)

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**Last** 04/13/2021

**Action:**

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*S - Concurred in committee referral*

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**HB3728 (HD3046) - An Act relative to the transparency of electronic weapons and devices**

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**Sponsor:** *Rep. Chris Hendricks (D)*

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**Last** *05/06/2021*

**Action:** *S - Concurred in committee referral*

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**HB3729 (HD135) - An Act relative to universal background checks for private gun sales**

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**Sponsor:** *Rep. David Paul Linsky (D)*

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**Summary:** *Amends [GL 140:128A](#) by requiring the sale or transfer of guns and firearms by unlicensed individuals to comply with existing purchase restrictions under [GL 140:131E](#) and to occur at the location of a licensed dealer who can transmit required information using the Massachusetts Gun Transaction Portal; authorizes dealers to charge up to \$25 per sale or transfer for which they make an electronic submission; imposes a fine up to \$10,000 and/or imprisonment in a state prison up to 20 years or in a house of correction up to 2½ years for selling or transferring firearms without meeting such requirements.*

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**Last** *05/06/2021*

**Action:** *S - Concurred in committee referral*

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**SB507 (SD1972) - An Act addressing noise issues of migratory game hunters near coastal dwellings**

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**Sponsor:** *Sen. Brendan Crighton (D)*

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**Summary:** *Amends [GL 131:58](#) (Shooting on or across Highway; Hunting Near Dwelling) to prohibit any persons hunting migratory game birds from a watercraft or any boat or floating device propelled by sail, steam, naphtha, gasoline, electricity, compressed air or similar motive power from discharging any firearm within one thousand feet of the coastal shoreline; amends [GL 131:65](#) (Hunting from Motor Vehicle, Snowmobile, Aircraft or Watercraft) to prohibit any watercraft used for hunting purposes from being within one thousand feet of the coastal shoreline.*

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**Last** *03/29/2021*

**Action:** *S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture*

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**SB508 (SD1973) - An Act establishing a special commission to study the noise effects of hunting migratory game birds in neighborhoods and communities within established coastal zones**

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**Sponsor:** *Sen. Brendan Crighton (D)*

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**Summary:** Establishes an 8 member special commission to study the noise effects of hunting migratory game birds in neighborhoods and communities located in established coastal zones; articulates the qualifications of the members of the commission; requires the commission to file its report with the secretary of the Commonwealth and the legislature by December 31, 2019.

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**Last** 03/29/2021

**Action:** S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture

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**SB531 (SD2296) - An Act relative to critical wildlife habitat management**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. James B. Eldridge (D)

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**Last** 03/29/2021

**Action:** S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture

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**SB536 (SD1166) - An Act relative to the use of crossbows in hunting**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. Anne Gobi (D)

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**Summary:** Amends GL 131 to allow the use of crossbows in hunting in accordance with regulations promulgated by the director of the division of fish and wildlife; repeals existing prohibition against the use of such crossbows.

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**Last** 03/29/2021

**Action:** S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture

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**SB546 (SD1453) - An Act to Reimburse the Inland Fisheries and Game Fund**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. Anne Gobi (D)

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**Last** 03/29/2021

**Action:** H - Concurred in committee referral

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**SB547 (SD1456) - An Act relative to outdoor heritage**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. Anne Gobi (D)

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**Summary:** Amends various provisions relative to hunting of wildlife in the Commonwealth; repeals provisions requiring unloaded firearms, rifles or shotguns to be carried in a closed case; limits the requirement to carry firearms unloaded to public lands during the open season for deer, bear or turkey; exempts people with Class A or Class B firearms licenses from the requirement to carry them unloaded; allows the director of fisheries and wildlife to exercise powers all days of the week; establishes a right to fish and hunt in accordance with existing rules and regulations while free from harassment; prohibits the verbal

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*or physical harassment of hunters or fishermen, driving away of wildlife, and otherwise harassing or intimidating people engaged in hunting and fishing; imposes fines and/or terms of imprisonment for such harassment; imposes fines and/or imprisonment for vandalizing equipment used in hunting and fishing, including blinds, fishing boats and fishing gear; imposes fines and imprisonment for causing bodily harm through harassment and vandalism related to hunting and fishing; imposes fines and imprisonment for posting a land as closed to hunting and fishing without the owners' consent; repeals provisions banning the use of bows or crossbows for hunting; repeals prohibitions against using certain types of shotgun ammunition, and instead allows the director of fisheries and wildlife to regulate permissible ammunition for hunting; permits the use of dogs in hunting upland game or waterfowl; repeals prohibitions against moose hunting; repeals prohibitions against carrying loaded shotguns or rifles.*

*(New draft of SB468. The new draft removes language that would have allowed bear hunting with the aid of baiting, removes language that would have permitted the hunting of coyotes with artificial light, and clarifies that deer hunting with bow and arrow is permitted during the proper open season.)*

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**Last** 03/29/2021

**Action:** H - Concurred in committee referral

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**SB552 (SD2110) - An Act relative to hunting near a dwelling**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. Anne Gobi (D)

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**Summary:** Amends section 58 of Chapter 131 (shooting upon or across highway; hunting near dwelling) by providing for hunting with a bow and arrow from a tree stand at least 250 feet for a dwelling unless authorized by the owner occupant of the house.

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**Last** 03/29/2021

**Action:** S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture

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**SB553 (SD2112) - An Act to enhance the management of problem wildlife**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. Anne Gobi (D)

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**Summary:** Amends provisions of GL 131:80A relative to leghold traps and certain other restricted devices by adding provisions that require any person issued a permit to report to the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, the name of the property owner, address of the property threatened by wildlife, the name of authorized agent, method used to alleviate the problem, and the number and species of animals taken pursuant to the permit.

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**Last** 03/29/2021

**Action:** H - Concurred in committee referral

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**SB554 (SD2113) - An Act conserving our natural resources**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. Anne Gobi (D)

**Summary:** Prohibits a person from using, setting, placing or maintaining any trap for the purpose of capturing furbearing mammals, except for common mouse and rat traps; describes other traps that are prohibited from being used for the aforementioned purpose; establishes that this provision will not apply to the use of prohibited devices by federal and state departments and those divisions and agencies described herein.

**Last** 03/29/2021

**Action:** S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture

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**SB623 (SD1029) - An Act prohibiting the sale of fur products**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. John Velis (D)

**Summary:** Adds new GL chapter 110I to prohibit (with some exceptions) the sale of fur products.

**Last** 03/29/2021

**Action:** S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture

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**SB625 (SD2094) - An Act relative to the use of shotgun ammunition for hunting**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. John Velis (D)

**Summary:** Amends [GL 131:66](#), the statute governing shotgun shells and load, to eliminate the explicit restrictions detailed therein and to simply state that such rules and regulations for the use and possession of shotgun ammunition types for the purposes of hunting are to be created by the director of the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife under control of the board.

**Last** 03/29/2021

**Action:** H - Concurred in committee referral

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**SB1064 (SD1323) - An Act prohibiting gunfire directed at dwelling houses**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. Edward Kennedy (D)

**Summary:** Adds a new Section 12G to [GL Chapter 269](#) to punish whoever discharges an assault weapon, firearm, large capacity weapon, machine gun, rifle, sawed-off shotgun, or shotgun, with the intent to strike a dwelling, and thereby strikes a dwelling by up to 2½ years in a house of correction or up to 5 years in state prison, or a fine not exceeding \$10,000, or by both such imprisonment and fine.

**Last** 07/20/2021

**Action:**

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H - Hearing Scheduled  
[07/27/2021 10:00 AM - Public Hearing, Virtual Hearing](#)  
Judiciary

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**SB1105 (SD275) - An Act updating hunter harassment laws**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. Michael O. Moore (D)

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**Summary:** Adds a new Section 5C to [GL Chapter 131](#) which guarantees the citizens of the commonwealth the right to harvest fish and wildlife free from harassment, subject to existing regulations; prohibits the obstruction, interfering with or preventing any lawful fishing or hunting where it is otherwise lawful; defines the listed behaviors as banned, including driving or disturbing fish or wildlife, blocking or impeding someone legally engaged in fishing or hunting, physical interference or trespass, and verbal harassment; imposes a term of imprisonment up to one year and/or a fine up to \$1,000; imposes a term of imprisonment up to two years and/or a fine up to \$5,000 for vandalism or destruction property used in legal fishing and hunting; imposes a term of imprisonment up to five years and/or a fine up to \$10,000 for causing bodily injury through harassment or vandalism intended to prevent hunting or fishing; prohibits posting private property as closed or restricted for hunting and fishing without the owner's permission; imposes a term of imprisonment up to one year and/or a fine up to \$1,000 for doing so; grants the superior court jurisdiction to enforce these rights; allows individuals hurt by violation of these rights to bring a civil action for damages; authorizes environmental and other police officers to enforce these provisions; deposits any fines collected into the Inland Fisheries and Game Fund to support the Hunter Education Program.

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**Last** 05/11/2021

**Action:** H - Hearing Scheduled  
[05/19/2021 10:00 AM - Public Hearing, Virtual Hearing](#)  
Judiciary

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**SB1537 (SD1508) - An Act to require liability insurance for gun ownership**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. Michael Barrett (D)

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**Summary:** Adds new Section 207 to GL 140 (Licenses) to require any person who possesses, carries or owns a firearm, rifle or shotgun to maintain a liability policy, bond or deposit; exempts persons who possess such a weapon on a temporary basis while on the premises of a licensed gun club; establishes criminal penalties for violations; directs the Commissioner of Insurance to promulgate regulations for the minimum terms of liability insurance policies to satisfy the requirements of this Act.

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**Last** 03/29/2021

**Action:** S - Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security

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**SB1562 (SD1503) - An Act relative to crime gun data reporting and analysis**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. Cynthia Stone Creem (D)

**Summary:** Directs the secretary of public safety to develop or solicit proposals for a university or nonprofit to develop a biennial report analyzing the firearms trace data and non-identifying gun sales transaction data held by the firearms records bureau; requires submission of the data by March 1 of every even-numbered year; requires inclusion of the listed information, including, but not limited to statistics related to firearms crimes, arrests and prosecutions of firearms-related offenses, and aggregate data on the source of firearms that have been confiscated and identified as being used in a crime or in an attempted or completed suicide during the report period.

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**Last** 03/29/2021

**Action:** H - Concurred in committee referral

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**SB1602 (SD1326) - An Act relative to the discharge of firearm, large capacity weapon, rifle, shotgun, sawed-off shotgun or machine gun without regard for the risk of harm; penalty**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. Edward Kennedy (D)

**Summary:** Adds new provisions to GL c.265 (Crimes Against the Person) by establishing a new and separate offense of intentionally or recklessly discharging a firearm, large capacity weapon, rifle, shotgun, sawed-off shotgun, or machine gun causing (without inflicting) a substantial risk of serious bodily injury to another; the offense can be charged either as a misdemeanor (with a maximum penalty of 2½ years in a House of Correction) or as a felony (with a maximum penalty of 5 years in a state prison). Please note that the bill does not include a fine as one of the penalty options.

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**Last** 03/29/2021

**Action:** H - Concurred in committee referral

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**SB2057 (SD1920) - An Act relative to land acquisition**

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**Sponsor:** Sen. Paul Feeney (D)

**Summary:** Amends GL 21A:2 (Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs: Duties and Functions) to require the Executive Office to publish notice in the Central Register of the intention of the Commonwealth to acquire land whenever an agency of said Executive Office acquires land by eminent domain, gift or devise at least 30 days prior to such acquisition.

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**Last** 03/29/2021

**Action:** S - Referred to Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

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