

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1919

To end the use of body-gripping traps in the National Wildlife Refuge System.

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 4, 2017

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. CASEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

---

## A BILL

To end the use of body-gripping traps in the National Wildlife Refuge System.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Refuge from Cruel  
5 Trapping Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. POSSESSION OR USE OF BODY-GRIPPING TRAP PRO-**  
7 **HIBITED.**

8 The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration  
9 Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.) is amended by add-  
10 ing at the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 6. POSSESSION OR USE OF BODY-GRIPPING TRAP**  
2 **PROHIBITED.**

3 “(a) DEFINITION OF BODY-GRIPPING TRAP.—As  
4 used in this section, the term ‘body-gripping trap’—

5 “(1) means any device that is intended to kill  
6 or capture wildlife by physically restraining any part  
7 of the animal;

8 “(2) includes any steel-jaw, padded, or other  
9 modified leghold trap, kill-type trap, snare trap, or  
10 any modified version of any such trap; and

11 “(3) does not include any cage or box trap or  
12 suitcase-type live beaver trap.

13 “(b) PROHIBITION.—No person may possess or use  
14 a body-gripping trap in the System.

15 “(c) ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS.—Notwithstanding  
16 section 4(f), a person who possesses or uses a body-grip-  
17 ping trap in the System shall be subject to—

18 “(1) in the case of a first offense, a civil fine  
19 of not more than \$500 imposed by the Secretary for  
20 each body-gripping trap possessed or used; and

21 “(2) in the case of a subsequent offense—

22 “(A) a civil fine of not more than \$1,000  
23 imposed by the Secretary for each body-grip-  
24 ping trap possessed or used;

25 “(B) imprisonment for not more than 180  
26 days; or

1                   “(C) both a civil fine and imprisonment in  
2                   accordance with subparagraphs (A) and (B).

3           “(d) FORFEITURE OF BODY-GRIPPING TRAP.—Any  
4 body-gripping trap that is possessed or used in violation  
5 of this section, and any wildlife captured by the use of  
6 the trap, including the pelt or raw fur, shall be subject  
7 to forfeiture to the United States in accordance with the  
8 provisions of chapter 46 of title 18, United States Code,  
9 relating to civil forfeitures.

10           “(e) PAYMENT OF COURT COSTS AND OTHER ASSO-  
11 CIATED EXPENSES.—A person found to be in violation of  
12 subsection (b) shall pay all court costs associated with the  
13 violation.

14           “(f) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 120 days after  
15 the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall  
16 issue any regulations necessary to carry out this section.”.

○