

Subject Turtles
Authors Vang and Others
Analyst Janelle Taylor
Date January 25, 2023

Overview

This bill would eliminate the turtle seller's license and prohibit the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) from renewing or transferring existing licenses. It would also require a recreational turtle license to take turtles and prohibit the use of traps to take turtles.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Turtle license. Eliminates the turtle seller's license fee and turtle seller's apprentice license fee.
2	Taking turtles; requirements. Requires a recreational turtle license to take turtles (in addition to a resident angling license which is required under current law). Prohibits turtles taken from the wild from being sold and makes other conforming changes needed due to the elimination of the turtle seller's license.
3	License exemptions. Modifies exemptions from the recreational turtle license requirements to conform to the removal of the turtle seller's license. Provides an exemption from licensing requirements for a person buying turtles for resale at a retail outlet or restaurant, a person under the age of 16, and a person with an aquatic farm license with a turtle endorsement or private fish hatchery license with a turtle endorsement. Prohibits turtles possessed under the licensing exemptions from being released back into the wild.
4	Taking; methods prohibited. Prohibits the use of traps and commercial equipment when taking turtles and makes other changes to conform to the removal of the turtle seller's license.

Section	Description
5	Turtle species; limits. Makes changes to conform to the removal of the turtle seller's license.
6	Turtle seller's licenses; transfer and renewal. Prohibits the DNR from renewing or transferring turtle seller's licenses.
7	Repealer. Repeals statutory provisions establishing turtle seller's licensing requirements and the associated rules as well as rules regulating the use of traps and other equipment prohibited under the bill.
8	Effective date. States that sections 1 to 7 are effective January 1, 2024.



**MN HOUSE
RESEARCH**

Minnesota House Research Department provides nonpartisan legislative, legal, and information services to the Minnesota House of Representatives. This document can be made available in alternative formats.

www.house.mn/hrd | 651-296-6753 | 155 State Office Building | St. Paul, MN 55155