

1 **WILDLIFE SPECIES INTRODUCTION AMENDMENTS**

2 2017 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Carl R. Albrecht**

5 Senate Sponsor: Margaret Dayton

7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9 This bill modifies provisions related to the release or transplantation of species.

10 **Highlighted Provisions:**

11 This bill:

12 ▶ prohibits the release or transplantation of live terrestrial or aquatic wildlife into the
13 wild without a certificate of registration issued by the Division of Wildlife

14 Resources or as otherwise provided by Title 23, Wildlife Resources Code of Utah;

15 ▶ states that the Division of Wildlife Resources may only authorize the transplanting
16 of big game, turkeys, wolves, threatened or endangered species, or sensitive species

17 as described in Section 23-14-21; and

18 ▶ makes technical changes.

19 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

20 None

21 **Other Special Clauses:**

22 None

23 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

24 AMENDS:

25 **23-13-14**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 231

27 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

28 Section 1. Section **23-13-14** is amended to read:

29 **23-13-14. Release of wildlife unlawful -- Penalty.**

30 (1) (a) A person may not release or transplant a live terrestrial or aquatic wildlife into
31 the wild;

32 (i) without a certificate of registration issued by the division authorizing the release; or

33 (ii) except as provided in this title and rules and regulations established by the Wildlife
34 Board in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

35 (b) The division may only authorize the transplanting of big game, turkeys, wolves,
36 threatened or endangered species, or sensitive species as provided in Section [23-14-21](#).

37 (2) Except as provided in Subsection (3), a person who violates Subsection (1) is guilty
38 of a class A misdemeanor.

39 (3) A person who knowingly and without lawful authority imports, transports, or
40 releases a live species of wildlife that the person knows is listed as threatened or endangered, or
41 is a candidate to be listed under the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec. 1531 et seq., with
42 the intent to establish the presence of that species in an area of the state not currently known to
43 be occupied by a reproducing population of that species is guilty of a third degree felony.