

CHAPTER 12
HB 342 - FINAL VERSION

24Feb2021... 0136h

2021 SESSION

21-0348
04/05

HOUSE BILL **342**

AN ACT relative to the taking of game by certain lever-action firearms and relative to the number of rounds permitted in a firearm used to take deer.

SPONSORS: Rep. Spillane, Rock. 2; Rep. Pearl, Merr. 26; Rep. Roy, Rock. 32; Rep. Verville, Rock. 2; Rep. Love, Rock. 6

COMMITTEE: Fish and Game and Marine Resources

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill allows the taking of game with certain lever-action firearms. The bill also specifies that a firearm used to take deer shall not be loaded with more than 6 rounds of ammunition.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One

AN ACT relative to the taking of game by certain lever-action firearms and relative to the number of rounds permitted in a firearm used to take deer.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 12:1 Fish and Game; Lawful Methods of Taking. Amend RSA 207:3, I to read as follows:

2 I. Wildlife shall be taken in the daytime between 1/2 hour before sunrise and 1/2 hour after
3 sunset with a gun, firearm, muzzleloader, or air rifle, fired at arm's length, ~~[or]~~ bow and arrow or
4 crossbow, **or a lever-action carbine chambered in .357, .44 Magnum, or .45 Colt in any area**
5 **where hunting is restricted to handgun or pistol**, unless otherwise specifically permitted. An
6 air rifle may be used to take small game but shall not be used to take moose, bear, turkey, or deer.
7 The executive director shall specify the method and manner of taking small game with an air rifle in
8 rules adopted pursuant to RSA 541-A.

9 12:2 Lawful Methods of Taking. Amend RSA 207:3, II to read as follows:

10 II. A full automatic rifle shall not be used at any time nor shall a semi-automatic rifle be
11 used to which is attached a magazine or clip holding more than ~~[5]~~ 6 cartridges, nor shall a full
12 jacketed metal case bullet be used, either in its original form or any alteration thereof.

13 12:3 Game Animals; Pistols Permitted. Amend RSA 208:3-d to read as follows:

14 208:3-d Pistols Permitted. Pistols permitted under RSA 208:3, 3-a, 3-b, and 3-c shall include
15 a .357 Magnum, 10mm Automatic, .41 Remington, .44 Magnum, .45 Long Colt, .480 Ruger, and .50
16 Magnum, provided that a pistol used for taking deer under this section shall be loaded with no more
17 than ~~[5]~~ 6 rounds of ammunition at any time.

12:4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

Approved: April 23, 2021

Effective Date: June 22, 2021