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HOUSE BILL 319

**57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025**

INTRODUCED BY

Stefani Lord and John Block

AN ACT

RELATING TO QUAIL; CREATING AN EXCEPTION IN THE DEFINITION OF  
"GAME BIRDS" FOR DOMESTIC STRAINS OF QUAIL; ALLOWING PEOPLE TO  
RAISE QUAIL WITHOUT A PERMIT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 17-2-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1967,  
Chapter 8, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"17-2-3. PROTECTED WILDLIFE SPECIES AND GAME FISH  
DEFINED.--

A. The following mammals are game mammals:

(1) all of the family Tayassuidae (javelina);

(2) within the family Bovidae:

(a) all of the genus Bison (American  
bison) except where raised in captivity for domestic or  
commercial meat production;

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1 (b) all of the genus *Capra* (ibex) except  
2 for the domestic species of goats;

3 (c) all of the genus *Ovis* (bighorn  
4 sheep) except for the domestic species of sheep;

5 (d) all of the genus *Ammotragus*  
6 (aoudad);

7 (e) all of the genus *Tragelaphus* (kudu);  
8 and

9 (f) all of the genus *Oryx* (oryx);

10 (3) all of the family Antilocapridae (American  
11 pronghorn);

12 (4) all of the family Cervidae (elk and deer);

13 (5) all of the family Ochotonidae (pikas);

14 (6) all of the genus *Sciurus* (squirrels);

15 (7) all of the genus *Tamiasciurus* (red  
16 squirrels);

17 (8) all of the genus *Marmota* (marmots) of the  
18 family Sciuridae;

19 (9) all of the family Ursidae (bear); and

20 (10) all of the species concolor (cougar) of  
21 the genus *Felis* and family Felidae.

22 B. The following birds are game birds:

23 (1) all of the family Anatidae (waterfowl);

24 (2) all of the family Tetraonidae (grouse and  
25 ptarmigans);

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1 (3) all of the family Phasianidae (quail,  
2 partridges and pheasants) except for the domestic strains of  
3 quail;

4 (4) all of the family Meleagridae (wild  
5 turkeys) except for the domestic strains of turkeys;

6 (5) all of the family Perdidae (francolins);

7 (6) all of the family Gruidae (cranes);

8 (7) all of the family Rallidae (rails, coots  
9 and gallinules);

10 (8) all of the family Charadriidae (plovers,  
11 turnstones and surfbirds);

12 (9) all of the family Scolopacidae  
13 (shorebirds, snipe, sandpipers and curlews);

14 (10) all of the family Recurvirostridae  
15 (avocets and stilts);

16 (11) all of the family Phalaropodidae  
17 (phalaropes); and

18 (12) all of the family Columbidae (wild  
19 pigeons and doves) except for the domestic strains of pigeons.

20 C. The following fish are game fish:

21 (1) all of the family Salmonidae (trout);

22 (2) all of the family Esocidae (pike);

23 (3) all of the family Ictaluridae (catfish);

24 (4) all introduced species of the family  
25 Serranidae (sea bass and white bass);

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1 (5) all of the family Centrarchidae (sunfish,  
2 crappie and bass);

3 (6) all of the family Percidae (walleye pike  
4 and perch);

5 (7) all introduced species of the family  
6 Pomadasyidae (sargo);

7 (8) all introduced species of the family  
8 Sciaenidae (corvina, bairdiella and redfish);

9 (9) all of the genus Oreochromis (tilapia);  
10 and

11 (10) all of the family Moronidae (striped  
12 bass, hybrid striped bass, white bass and others)."

13 SECTION 2. [NEW MATERIAL] NO PERMIT REQUIRED TO RAISE  
14 QUAIL.--A person may raise quail for the purposes of producing  
15 meat or eggs without a permit.

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