

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 29.1-508.1, relating to the use of*
3 *drugs on vertebrate wildlife; penalty.*

4 [S 261]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 29.1-508.1 as follows:**8 *§ 29.1-508.1. Use of drugs on vertebrate wildlife.*

9 *A. Without written authorization from the Director or his designee, it is unlawful to administer any*
10 *drug to any vertebrate wildlife, except in accordance with a permit issued under the provisions of this*
11 *title or regulations adopted by the Board. This prohibition shall include, but not be limited to, drugs*
12 *used for fertility control, disease prevention or treatment, immobilization, or growth stimulation. Nothing*
13 *in this section shall prohibit the treatment of sick or injured wild animals by licensed veterinarians or*
14 *permitted wildlife rehabilitators. This section shall not limit employees of agencies of the*
15 *Commonwealth, the United States, or local animal control officers in the performance of their official*
16 *duties related to public health, wildlife management, or wildlife removal. For the purposes of this*
17 *section, the term "drug" means any chemical substance, other than food, that affects the structure or*
18 *biological function of wildlife species.*

19 *B. The Department may take possession and dispose of any vertebrate wildlife if it believes that*
20 *drugs have been administered to such wildlife in violation of this section.*

21 *C. Any person violating this section is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.*

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