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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETIETH SESSION

H. F. No. 1356

02/16/2017 Authored by Becker-Finn, Kunesh-Podein, Allen and Fischer
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to game and fish; prohibiting use of ammunition containing lead during
1.3 the regular firearms season; amending Minnesota Statutes 2016, sections 97B.031,
1.4 by adding a subdivision; 97B.041.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 97B.031, is amended by adding a subdivision
1.7 to read:

1.8 Subd. 7. Lead ammunition prohibited. A person may not use or possess ammunition
1.9 containing lead when taking deer during the regular firearms season.

1.10 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2019.

1.11 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 97B.041, is amended to read:

1.12 **97B.041 POSSESSION OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION RESTRICTED IN**
1.13 **DEER ZONES.**

1.14 (a) A person may not possess a firearm or ammunition outdoors during the period
1.15 beginning the fifth day before the open firearms season and ending the second day after the
1.16 close of the season within an area where deer may be taken by a firearm, except:

1.17 (1) during the open season and in an area where big game may be taken, a firearm and
1.18 ammunition authorized for taking big game in that area may be used to take big game in
1.19 that area if the person has a valid big-game license in possession;

1.20 (2) an unloaded firearm that is in a case or in a closed trunk of a motor vehicle;

2.1 (3) a shotgun and shells containing No. 4 buckshot or smaller diameter ~~lead shot or steel~~
2.2 shot;

2.3 (4) a handgun or rifle capable of firing only rimfire cartridges of .17 and .22 caliber,
2.4 including .22 magnum caliber cartridges;

2.5 (5) handguns possessed by a person authorized to carry a handgun under sections 624.714
2.6 and 624.715 for the purpose authorized; and

2.7 (6) on a target range operated under a permit from the commissioner.

2.8 (b) This section does not apply during an open firearms season in an area where deer
2.9 may be taken only by muzzleloader, except that muzzle-loading firearms lawful for the
2.10 taking of deer may be possessed only by persons with a valid license to take deer by
2.11 muzzleloader during the muzzleloader season. While muzzleloader hunting, a person with
2.12 a valid license to take deer by muzzleloader may not possess a firearm other than:

2.13 (1) a muzzleloader that is legal for taking deer under section 97B.031, subdivision 1;
2.14 and

2.15 (2) a firearm as described in paragraph (a), clauses (2) to (5).

2.16 (c) A first violation of paragraph (a) is punishable by a warning.

2.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2019.