

**Internet Hunting Bills and Laws  
Updated 5/9/06**

**Under Consideration in 2006 (2):**

Delaware  
Louisiana

**Signed into Law (21)**

Alabama  
California  
Kentucky  
Maine  
Maryland  
Michigan  
Minnesota  
Mississippi  
New Hampshire  
New Jersey  
New Mexico

New York  
North Carolina  
Pennsylvania  
South Carolina  
Tennessee  
Texas  
Vermont  
Virginia  
West Virginia  
Wisconsin

Alabama

S.B. 157 Makes canned hunting of exotics and internet hunting illegal. Signed into law.

Delaware

H.S. 1 was substituted for H.B. 83 (George) prohibits internet hunting and trapping. This Act bans internet and remote controlled hunting in Delaware. Pursuant to this Act, no person shall shoot at or kill any bird or animal in this State with any gun or other device operated by remote control or accessed via an internet connection. Accessing, regulating access to, or regulating the control of a remotely controlled gun or device capable of being operated in violation of this subsection shall be prima facie evidence of an offense under this Act. Introduced in 2005.

Georgia

H.B. 1488 makes it unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, or association to engage in computer assisted remote hunting or provide or operate a facility that allows others to engage in computer assisted remote hunting if the wild animal or wildlife being hunted or shot is located in this state.

Illinois

H.B. 2065 (Mendoza) Provides that a person may not operate, provide, sell, use, or offer to operate, provide, sell, or use any computer software or service that allows a person not physically present at the hunt site to remotely control a weapon that could be used to take wildlife by remote operation, including, but not limited to, weapons or devices set up to fire through the use of the Internet or through a remote control device. On 5/29/05 it passed the House. Will be considered in the Senate in 2006.

Kentucky

H.B. 289 (Webb) prohibits any person from hunting or harvesting wildlife in Kentucky by means of computer-assisted remote hunting or providing or operating a facility that allows others to engage in computer-assisted remote hunting. On 4/21/06 it was signed into law by the governor.

## Louisiana

H.B. 49 and H.B. 52 Prohibits internet hunting. Introduced March 6, 2006.

## Maryland

S.B. 521/H.B. 968 prohibit a person from killing a bird or animal in the state with a gun or other device operated or accessed via an internet connection. S.B. 521 passed the senate on 2/23.

## Mississippi

S.B. 2041 (Sen. Lynn Posey) Prohibits a person from engaging in computer-assisted remote hunting. Signed into law.

## Nebraska:

L.B. 786 (Sen. Mines) Prohibits anyone from hunting through the Internet or hosting a hunt through the Internet or otherwise enable another person to hunt through the Internet. Any conservation officer or any person specifically employed or designated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service may offer to host or otherwise enable another person to hunt through the Internet for the sole purpose of obtaining evidence of a violation of this section. Any firearm, computer, equipment, appliance, or conveyance used in violation of this section is contraband and shall be confiscated and forfeited to the state upon seizure by law enforcement authorities. Any person who violates this act is guilty of a Class II misdemeanor and shall pay a fine of up to seventy-five dollars, and shall not hunt, fish, or trap in this state for not less than one year from the date of sentencing. Each unlawful transaction, offer, or transfer of wildlife for any consideration, possession of contraband with the intent to transact, offer, or transfer wildlife for any consideration in connection with hunting through the Internet is a separate offense. Any person who violates this act shall not hunt, fish, or trap for a period of not less than one year from the date of sentencing.

## New Hampshire

H.B. 1420 (Nowe) Makes the offering for sale or assisting in the taking of game by use of remote control or Internet hunting a misdemeanor. On 4/28/06 it was signed into law by the governor.

## New Jersey

A. 764 (Gordon, McKeon, Gusciora, Conaway, Voss, Stanley) and S. 2670 prohibit computer-assisted remote hunting. A. 764 was sent to the governor on 3/20/06.

## New Mexico

S.B. 157\_ A person shall not: (1) engage in computer-assisted remote hunting; (2) provide or operate facilities for the purpose of computer-assisted remote hunting; (3) create, maintain, provide, advertise or sell computer software or an internet web site for the purpose of computer-assisted remote hunting. 3/6/06 signed into law.

## South Carolina

H. 3879 (Rep. Michael Pitts (R, 14) Makes it illegal for a person to engage in computer-assisted remote hunting or provide or operate facilities for computer-assisted remote hunting if the animal being hunted is located in the State of South Carolina. Passed the House.

**Bills signed into law in 2005:**

**California  
Maine  
Michigan  
Minnesota  
New York  
North Carolina  
Pennsylvania**

**Tennessee  
Texas  
Vermont  
Virginia  
West Virginia  
Wisconsin**

**California - Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter No. 672**

S.B. 1028 (Bowen) makes it unlawful for any person subject to the jurisdiction of this state to take birds or mammals, located both in state and out of state, by means of computer-assisted remote hunting. The bill would also make it unlawful to establish or operate a computer-assisted remote hunting site in this state for the purpose of permitting the taking of any bird or mammal. This bill would make it unlawful to possess or confine any bird or mammal in furtherance of an activity prohibited by the bill, and would also make it unlawful to import or export any bird or mammal, or any part thereof, taken by computer-assisted remote hunting, as provided. Signed into law on 10/7/05.

**Maine - Sec. 1. 7 MRSA Section 1344, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 765, Section 3**

L.D. 50 (H.P. 46) (Carr) makes it a class E crime for the owner or operator of a commercial shooting area or a commercial large game shooting area from using a website or a service or business via any other means that permits a person to hunt large game, wild animals or game birds that are located in this State through the use of a computer-controlled gun, shooting apparatus or any other remote-control device when the person using the website, service or business is physically removed from the immediate vicinity of the large game, wild animal or game bird. On 5/10/05 it was signed into law.

**Michigan - Amends 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.1 to 750.568) by adding section 236b.**

H.B. 4465 (Rep. Glenn Steil) & S.B. 373 (Sen. Michelle McManus) prohibits internet hunting. S.B. 373 signed into law on 9/21/05.

**Minnesota - Sec. 30. (97B.115)**

H.F. 847/S.F. 789: Provision added to the Omnibus Senate and House Game and Fish bill: Sec. 21. (97B.115) (computer-assisted remote hunting prohibition.) No person shall operate, provide, sell, use or offer to operate, provide, sell or use any computer software or service that allows a person, not physically present at the site, to remotely control a weapon that could be used to take any wild animal by remote operation, including, but not limited to, weapons or devices set up to fire through the use of the internet or through a remote control device. Signed into law on 6/3/05.

**New York - SECTION 11-1906**

A. 7032a (Glick) and S. 2822 (Marcellino) prohibits the shooting or spearing of targets or animals from a remote location over the internet. On 9/16/05 A.7032a & S. 2822 were signed into law.

**North Carolina - SECTION 113-291.1A**

H.B. 772 (Williams) makes it a class 1 misdemeanor for a person to engage in computer-assisted remote hunting or provide or operate a facility that allows others to engage in computer-assisted remote hunting if the wild animal or wild bird being hunted or shot is located within the state. On 5/26/05 it was signed into law.

**Pennsylvania - Section 1. Chapter 76, Subchapter D 76 of Title 18**

H.B. 1435 (Gergely) makes it a misdemeanor to harvest any animal in the Commonwealth with a computer-assisted remote hunting devices. On 11/1/05 it was signed into law.

**Tennessee - Section 70-4-501**

H.B. 1268 (Tidwell) and S.B. 1505 (Jackson) makes it a class A misdemeanor for a person to engage in computer-assisted remote hunting or to provide or operate facilities for computer-assisted remote hunting if the wildlife being hunted is located in the state. On 4/22/05 S.B. 1505 signed into law.

**Texas - Subchapter A, Chapter 62, Parks and Wildlife Code, Section 62.002**

H.B. 2026 (Todd Smith) Prohibits the use computer-assisted equipment for the hunting or birds or mammals from remote locations. Became law without governor's signature on 6/20/05.

**Vermont - Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. Section 4715**

S. 166 (Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs) Prohibits taking a wild animal or captive animal using a remote-control hunting device regardless of the location of the animal taken; establishing or operating a remote-control hunting site in Vermont; importing, exporting, or possessing a wild animal or captive animal, or part thereof, taken by a remote-control hunting device. Allows a person who is physically impaired to the degree that he or she cannot operate a device allowed for taking of game under Vermont law may obtain a permit to take game in Vermont with a device which is in the immediate vicinity of the permittee and which the permittee operates using remote-control technology other than the internet. On 6/7/05 it was signed into.

**Virginia - Article 2 of Chapter 5 of Title 29.1 a section numbered 29.1-530.3,**

H.B. 2273 (Oder) & S.B. 1083 (Ticer) prohibits operating, providing, selling, or using any device or service that allows a person, not physically present, to remotely control a firearm, weapon, or device to hunt any live animal or bird, or offering to do so. Violations are Class 1 misdemeanors and will result in revocation of any hunting license for between three and five years. On 3/20/05 they were signed into law.

**West Virginia - Section 20-2-5**

H.B. 2890 (DeLong) makes it unlawful to hunt or conduct hunts for a fee where the hunter is not in the same physical location as the wildlife. Signed into law on 5/2/05

**Wisconsin - SECTION 1. 95.55 (5) (bn)**

A.B. 179 (Gunderson) & S.B. 207 (Kedzie) prohibits any hunter from shooting at a wild animal on a deer or game farm without being physically in possession of the weapon. On 8/15/05 A.B. 179 signed into law.