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The United States Constitution

Article II, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution imposes only three eligibility requirements on persons serving as president, based on the officeholder's age, time of residency in the U.S., and citizenship status:

U.S. Constitution – Presidential Candidate Eligibility

"No person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty-five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States."

Legislation Proposal

Starseer Kaley Cyanide Trap Ban Act

A BILL

To prohibit the use of sodium cyanide ejector devices on federal lands and in federally supported wildlife management activities, to promote humane non-lethal predator deterrence practices, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Starseer Kaley Cyanide Trap Ban Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that:



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1. Sodium cyanide ejector devices, including M-44 devices, inflict severe and unnecessary suffering upon wildlife and domestic animals;
2. Such devices are inherently indiscriminate and pose risks to pets, protected wildlife species, livestock, and human beings;
3. Public lands should be managed according to principles of humane stewardship, ecological responsibility, and public safety;
4. Effective non-lethal predator deterrence methods are available and should be prioritized in wildlife conflict management;
5. The Federal Government has a compelling interest in preventing cruel and unnecessary wildlife poisoning practices on federal lands and through all federally supported or authorized activities regardless of land ownership or jurisdiction.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(a) The term "cyanide ejector device" means any device intended to discharge sodium cyanide or similar toxic compounds into an animal through mechanical or spring activation, including M-44 devices.

(b) The term "Federal lands" means lands owned, managed, administered, or controlled by the United States Government. For purposes of this Act, the prohibitions herein shall also apply to any activity conducted pursuant to a federal cooperative agreement, federal permit, federal grant, or federal contract, regardless of whether such activity occurs on federal, state, tribal, or private land.

(c) The term "non-lethal deterrence" means humane wildlife conflict mitigation practices including fencing, fladry systems, guardian animals, range riders, relocation efforts, and related science-based methods.

SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON CYANIDE DEVICES.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person, entity, contractor, or Federal agency to:

1. Manufacture for Federal use;



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2. Deploy;
3. Transport for the purpose of field deployment;
4. Possess for field deployment;
5. Sell to a Federal agency;
6. Authorize;
7. Fund;
8. Utilize; or
9. Deploy or authorize the deployment of any cyanide ejector device pursuant to any federal cooperative agreement, permit, grant, or contract, regardless of the land ownership or jurisdiction in which such deployment occurs

any cyanide ejector device on Federal lands or in federally funded wildlife management activities.

(b) No Federal permit, contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or memorandum may authorize activities prohibited under this section.

SEC. 5. NON-LETHAL WILDLIFE PROTECTION PROGRAM.

(a) The Secretary of the Interior shall establish a Humane Wildlife Conflict Prevention Grant Program to assist:

1. Ranchers;
2. Tribal governments;
3. Conservation organizations;
4. States; and
5. Local governments

in implementing non-lethal predator deterrence strategies.

(b) Priority shall be given to programs demonstrating measurable reductions in lethal predator control.

SEC. 6. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES.



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(a) Any person or entity violating this Act shall be subject to:

1. Civil penalties as follows: (A) For natural persons: not less than \$25,000 and not more than \$250,000 per violation; (B) For corporations, partnerships, associations, or other legal entities: not less than \$100,000 and not more than \$1,000,000 per violation; (C) For continuing violations, penalties shall accrue on a per-day basis at the applicable rate above from the date the violation is discovered or should reasonably have been discovered;
2. Suspension or debarment from Federal contracts or grants;
3. Seizure and destruction of prohibited devices; and
4. Criminal penalties for knowing or reckless violations, including: (A) Imprisonment of not more than 5 years per violation where such violation results in injury to or death of a non-target animal, domestic animal, or human being; (B) Imprisonment of not more than 2 years per violation for all other knowing or reckless violations not resulting in injury or death; (C) Criminal fines not to exceed \$500,000 per violation for natural persons; and (D) Criminal fines not to exceed \$2,000,000 per violation for corporations, partnerships, associations, or other legal entities.

(b) Federal employees who knowingly violate this Act may be subject to administrative disciplinary action, including removal consistent with applicable law.

SEC. 6A. ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.

(a) The Inspector General of the Department of the Interior and the Inspector General of the Department of Agriculture shall each have jurisdiction to investigate violations of this Act occurring within their respective agency's programs, contracts, and cooperative agreements.

(b) Civil penalties under this Act shall be assessed and collected by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture, as applicable to the violating activity, acting through their respective enforcement offices. Final civil penalty determinations shall be subject to review in the United States district court for the district in which the violation occurred.

(c) Criminal violations of this Act shall be referred to the Attorney General for prosecution. The United States district court for the district in which the violation occurred shall have jurisdiction over criminal proceedings brought under this Act.



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(d) The Environmental Protection Agency shall have concurrent authority to investigate and refer for enforcement any violation of this Act involving environmental contamination resulting from the deployment or improper disposal of prohibited devices.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the investigative or prosecutorial authority of the Department of Justice with respect to violations of this Act.

SEC. 7. WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS.

Federal employees and contractors who disclose violations of this Act shall receive all protections available under:

1. The Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989; and
2. Other applicable Federal whistleblower laws.

SEC. 8. RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.

The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may promulgate regulations necessary to carry out this Act.

SEC. 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect immediately upon enactment.