
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

JANUARY 17, 1900.

Mr. LACEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and ordered to be printed.

A BILL

To enlarge the powers of the Department of Agriculture, prohibit the transportation by interstate commerce of game killed in violation of local laws, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the duties and powers of the Department of Agriculture
4 are hereby enlarged so as to include the preservation, distri-
5 bution, introduction, and restoration of game birds and other
6 wild birds. The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby author-
7 ized to adopt such measures as may be necessary to carry out
8 the purposes of this Act and to purchase such game birds
9 and other wild birds as may be required therefor, subject,
10 however, to the laws of the various States and Territories.
11 The object and purpose of this Act is to aid in the restora-
12 tion of such birds in those parts of the United States
13 adapted thereto where the same have become scarce or

1 extinct, and also to regulate the introduction of American or
2 foreign birds or animals in localities where they have not
3 heretofore existed.

4 The Secretary of Agriculture shall from time to time col-
5 lect and publish useful information as to the propagation, uses,
6 and preservation of such birds.

7 And the Secretary of Agriculture shall make and pub-
8 lish all needful rules and regulations for carrying out the pur-
9 poses of this Act, and shall expend for said purposes such
10 sums as Congress may appropriate therefor.

11 SEC. 2. That it shall be unlawful for any person or per-
12 sons to import into the United States any foreign wild animal
13 or bird except under special permit from the United States
14 Department of Agriculture: *Provided*, That nothing in this
15 section shall restrict the importation of natural history speci-
16 mens for museums or scientific collections, or the importation
17 of certain cage birds, such as domesticated canaries, parrots,
18 or such other species as the Secretary of Agriculture may
19 designate.

20 The importation of the mongoose, the so-called "flying-
21 foxes" or fruit bats, the English sparrow, the starling, or such
22 other birds or animals as the Secretary of Agriculture may
23 from time to time declare injurious to the interest of agricul-
24 ture or horticulture is hereby prohibited, and such species
25 upon arrival at any of the ports of the United States shall be