

A bill for an act

relating to game and fish; recognizing the threat to waterfowl from ingesting lead tackle; phasing in a ban on the sale and use of lead sinkers, jigs, and lures; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 97C.

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

Section 1. **[97C.316] LEAD SINKERS, JIGS, AND LURES.**

Subdivision 1. **Lead tackle policy.** It is the policy of this state to safeguard the long-term survival of its loon and other waterfowl populations from potential threats. One of those threats is the use of lead sinkers, jigs, or lures, which, if lost during fishing, can be ingested by loons, ringneck ducks, and trumpeter swans, among other species, and slowly poison the bird to death.

Subd. 2. **Phase-in ban.** After, an angler may not use a lead sinker, jig, or lure weighing one-half ounce or less to take fish on any waters lying wholly within the state or any portion of the boundary waters within the jurisdiction of the state. A person may not sell or offer to sell a lead sinker, jig, or lure weighing one-half ounce or less in this state. For purposes of this section, "lead sinker, jig, or lure" means a device that contains lead and is designed to be attached to a fishing line.