



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

**Committee Bill No. 5400**

LCO No. 3448



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRESERVATION OF STONE WALLS IN THE STATE.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) No person shall  
2 dismantle a stone wall without the written authorization of the owner  
3 of such stone wall to dismantle such stone wall. No person shall steal  
4 any stone from a stone wall.

5 (b) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this  
6 section shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned  
7 not more than one year.

8 (c) In addition to any penalty ordered pursuant to subsection (b) of  
9 this section, the court may award damages to the owner of such stone  
10 wall of up to five times the cost of restoration of the stone wall provided  
11 such award may not exceed ten thousand dollars. In determining the  
12 amount of such award, the court shall consider the willfulness of the  
13 violation, the extent of damage done to the stone wall, the appraised  
14 value of any stones damaged or carried away and any economic gain  
15 realized by the violator and any other relevant factors.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2023	New section
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**Statement of Purpose:**

To preserve stone walls throughout the state.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: REP. RYAN, 139th Dist.; SEN. OSTEN, 19th Dist.  
REP. BUMGARDNER, 41st Dist.

H.B. 5400