



Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act





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Since 1940, long before the Endangered Species Act, U.S. law has afforded a high level of protection to the bald eagle due to its significance as a symbol of America. The law prohibits the take, possession, sale, purchase, barter, offer to sell, purchase or barter, transport, export or import, of any bald or golden eagle, alive or dead, including any part, nest, or egg, unless allowed by permit. "Take" includes any action to harm or disturb the bird.

Amendments to the law in 1972 increased the penalties for violations. The penalties include fines prison sentences. Felony convictions for an individual carry a maximum fine of \$250,000, and the fine doubles for an organization.

Law: 16 U.S.C. 668-668d



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