AN ACT

RELATING TO STATE AGENCIES; CREATING EXCEPTIONS TO THE
PROHIBITION ON SPOTLIGHTING LAND WHERE BIG GAME OR DOMESTIC
LIVESTOCK RESIDE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

        Section 1. Section 17-2-31 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1951,
Chapter 171, Section 1) is amended to read:

        "17-2-31. USE OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHT WHILE HUNTING
PROHIBITED.--It [shall be] is unlawful for [any] a person [or
one or more of a group of persons together] in possession or
control of a firearm to throw or cast the rays of a spotlight
or other artificial light into any field, pasture, woodland,
forest or prairie [wherein] where big game or domestic
livestock may be, or [may be] are reasonably expected to be,
[while having in his possession or their possession or under

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control a firearm or other implement] whereby any big game

animal or domestic animal could be killed by aid of an

artificial light [provided, however, that all officers].

However, the following shall be exempt from the provisions of

this section:

A. an officer authorized to enforce the game and

livestock laws of the state [of New Mexico and all landowners

or lessees, while on their own lands in connection with their

legitimate activities, and employees of such landowners and

lessees shall be exempt from the provisions of this Act];

B. a government employee acting in an official

capacity;

C. a landowner or lessee or employee of such

landowner or lessee, while on the land owned or leased in

connection with legitimate activities; or

D. a person who has received a permit or

authorization from the department of game and fish to conduct

such activities."

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