

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 409

BY REPRESENTATIVE FIRMENT

WILDLIFE & FISHERIES: Provides relative to harassment of hunters, trappers, and fishermen on lands and waters managed by the state

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:648(2) and 648.1(introductory paragraph), relative to
3 harassment and disturbance of hunters, trappers, and fishermen; to provide
4 definitions; to expand the state lands and waters on which the prohibition against
5 harassment and disturbance applies; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 56:648(2) and 648.1(introductory paragraph) is hereby amended and
8 reenacted to read as follows:

9 §648. Definitions

10 As used in this Subpart, the following definitions shall apply:

11 * * *

12 (2) "Process of taking" means any act directed at the lawful taking of a wild
13 animal, including the acts of travel, camping, or other activity occurring in
14 preparation for the taking which occurs on state-managed lands or waters governed
15 ~~by the provisions of R.S. 56:781-R.S. 56:787~~ or which occurs on private lands or
16 waters with the permission of the owner or his agent.

17 §648.1. Harassment and disturbance prohibited

18 No person shall engage in any of the following activities on lands or waters
19 managed by the state ~~pursuant to R.S. 56:781 through R.S. 56:787~~, or upon private

1 lands or waters where a hunter, trapper, or fisherman has been given permission by
2 the owner or his agent to take wild animals:

3 * * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 409 Engrossed

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Firmment

Abstract: Prohibits the harassment and disturbance of trappers, hunters, and fishermen on all lands and waters managed by the state, rather than restricting the prohibition to state managed wildlife refuges, wildlife sanctuaries, wildlife management areas, public hunting grounds, and upland game preserves.

Present law prohibits the harassment and disturbance of trappers, hunters, and fishermen on lands and waters managed by the state pursuant to present law regarding wildlife refuges, wildlife sanctuaries, wildlife management areas, public hunting grounds, and upland game preserves.

Proposed law removes the present law restriction to only those state-managed lands and waters within wildlife refuges, wildlife sanctuaries, wildlife management areas, public hunting grounds, and upland game preserves, so that proposed law prohibits harassment and disturbance of trappers, hunters, and fishermen on all state-managed lands and waters.

(Amends R.S. 56:648(2) and 648.1(intro. para.))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment to the original bill:

1. Remove language specifically including the Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve within state-managed lands and waters.