

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER: Sen. Roblan

Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact, statement issued (Indeterminate Impact)

Action Date: 06/15/15

Action: Do Pass The B-Eng Bill.

Meeting Dates: 06/10, 06/15

Vote:

Yeas: 4 - Boquist, Edwards, Hass, Riley

Exc: 1 - Baertschiger Jr

Prepared By: Christine Broniak, Economist

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes landowners who meet certain criteria to petition for formation of predator damage control district within a county. Modifies definition of "predatory animals" to include bears, bobcats, and red foxes in addition to black bears, cougars, fur-bearing mammals, gray wolves, coyotes, rabbits, rodents, and birds. Requires county commissioners to appoint an advisory board for newly formed predator damage control district. Establishes presumptive charges of \$1 per acre for tax lots of 10 or more acres and a \$25 flat rate for tax lots with less than 10 acres. Requires advisory board to consider annually whether presumptive charges are sufficient and to recommend changes to the charges that may be approved by the county. Authorizes county to amend recommended charges. Allows landowners to elect whether to incur the charge and requires the board to submit a list of those landowners electing to incur charges. Requires the county to certify the list of landowners paying the charges so that they may receive services from the county to prevent, reduce, or mitigate damage from predatory animals in the district.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Voluntary nature of participation in the district
- Funding for predator control at the county level

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The measure would establish a new type of district that would mitigate and control damage to property from predatory species.