

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.C.R. 56
By: Armbrister
Natural Resources
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As Filed

DIGEST

The Texas Legislature and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) have traditionally recognized the private landowner as the primary steward of our state's natural resources and have provided increased flexibility for wildlife management on private lands. In order to preserve wildlife habitat or "wild land" use, the private landowner must receive economic benefit and continued flexibility in managing natural resources. These private properties require strict control of deer herd numbers and demographics as a means to protect the resource from depletion and waste while allowing the landowner to achieve management goals. Furthermore, TPWD has appointed the White-tailed Deer Advisory Committee to review current deer regulations and statutes and make recommendations to the department on appropriate actions.

PURPOSE

S.C.R. 56 submits the following resolutions:

That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas direct the White-tailed Deer Advisory Committee to address how habitat relates to the ecological diversity of the state and to study the role of the wildlife biologist in the development of management plans and in the utilization of suitable management practices, including population goals and control, yearly census data, supplemental feeding and food plots, and genetic management.

That the 78th Legislature direct the White-tailed Deer Advisory Committee to study current deer management permits to determine how to provide flexibility and economic incentives for private landowners in preserving wildlife habitat.

That the 78th Legislature direct the White-tailed Deer Advisory Committee to meet with the members or staff of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, the members or staff of the House Committee on State Cultural and Recreational Resources, and the staff of the Parks and Wildlife Department on a quarterly basis and to report findings from each meeting to the chairman of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, the chairman of the House Committee on State Cultural and Recreational Resources, and the chairman of the Parks and Wildlife Commission.

That the secretary of state forward an official copy of this resolution to the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, the chairman of the Senate Natural Resources Committee, the chairman of the House State Cultural and Recreational Resources Committee, and the executive director of the Parks and Wildlife Department.