

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

BY REPRESENTATIVE STUART BISHOP

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To amend the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries rule (LAC 76:V.115(E)(1)), which provides exemptions from the department's rules governing private possession of potentially dangerous quadrupeds, exotic cats, and nonhuman primates, to include in those exemptions the Zoo of Acadiana so long as it meets the American Zoo and Aquarium Association standards for enclosures and to direct the office of the state register to print the amendments in the Louisiana Administrative Code.

WHEREAS, Act Number 715 of the 2006 Regular Session of the Legislature enacted R.S. 56:6(31) which requires the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to ". . . promulgate rules and regulations to control the importation and private possession of big exotic cats . . ."; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:6(31) also provides for ". . . exceptions for big cats traditionally kept by colleges and universities as school mascots, animal sanctuaries, zoos, wildlife research centers, and scientific organizations." ; and

WHEREAS, the rules adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission provide exemptions for those ". . . zoos accredited or certified by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association."; and

WHEREAS, accreditation and exacting standards are important to ensure the well-being and safety of the animals held in captivity and the safety of the people who are caring for and viewing the animals.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of Louisiana that LAC 76:V.115(E)(1) is hereby amended to read as follows:

§115. Possession of Potentially Dangerous Wild Quadrupeds, Big Exotic Cats, and
Non-Human Primates

* * *

E. Exempted Entities. The following organizations and entities shall be exempt from this regulation, including permitting:

1. zoos accredited or certified by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) and the Zoo of Acadiana so long as it meets the American Zoo and Aquarium Association standards for enclosures;

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the office of the state register and the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of the state register is hereby directed to have the amendments to LAC 76:V.115(E)(1) printed and incorporated into the Louisiana Administrative Code.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE