

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 61

BY REPRESENTATIVES RISER AND MINCEY

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to review the regulations governing the possession and ownership of certain exotic and invasive species and evaluate the advisability of including additional species in those prohibitions.

WHEREAS, Louisiana has one of the most diverse and vast natural habitats in the world; and

WHEREAS, many exotic nonindigenous and potentially invasive species thrive in Louisiana to the peril of native species; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's ecosystem is fragile and should be protected; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:6 et seq. requires the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to promulgate rules and regulations to control the importation and private possession of nonindigenous constrictors in excess of twelve feet in length; venomous snakes; nonhuman primates; big exotic cats including but not limited to tigers, lions, leopards, jaguars, cheetahs, and hybrids resulting from cross-breeding of such cats; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries should examine the advisability of expanding its rules regulating the possession and ownership of certain exotic and invasive species to include members of the monitor lizard family, other invasive lizard species, and any other potentially invasive species that originate in other parts of the world with a similar climate and habitat to that of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to review the regulation governing the possession and ownership of certain exotic and invasive species and evaluate the advisability of including additional species in those prohibitions.

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE