

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 188

BY REPRESENTATIVES BUTLER, COATES, AND OWEN

A RESOLUTION

To memorialize the United States Congress to oppose any provision in the federal Farm Bill, or any other federal legislation or regulation, that would prohibit, restrict, or undermine lawful hunting, including hunting with dogs, field trials, dog training, or the use of working dogs in traditional sporting activities and to urge Louisiana's congressional delegation to protect the culture, heritage, and rights of sportsmen and women.

WHEREAS, H.R. 7567, the "Farm, Food, and National Security Act" (Farm Bill) of 2026, is a major omnibus instrument filed to enact a multi-year law that dictates agricultural, food, and conservation policies every five years, approximately; and

WHEREAS, Congress is currently negotiating a new Farm Bill to address conservation efforts, commodity supports, crop insurance, and nutrition programs with an anticipated floor vote by the United States House of Representatives as early as the end of April; and

WHEREAS, proposed amendments to the Farm Bill include language from the Greyhound Protection Act of 2025 (H.R. 5017) that contain vague language that leaves both hunters and conservationists concerned; and

WHEREAS, hunting is a longstanding tradition in the state of Louisiana and across the nation, deeply rooted in the culture, heritage, and way of life of countless families and communities; and

WHEREAS, hunting with dogs has been for generations a lawful and valued part of that tradition, especially in rural communities where such practices are passed down from one generation to the next; and

WHEREAS, working dogs used in hunting, field trials, and related sporting activities are highly trained and serve an important role in lawful outdoor recreation, wildlife management, and conservation practices; and

WHEREAS, sportsmen and women contribute substantially to local economies through the purchase of equipment, feed, veterinary care, training supplies, travel, lodging, and other related expenditures; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana citizens have expressed concern that language proposed in the federal Farm Bill, or related federal measures, could be interpreted in a way that restricts or bans lawful hunting practices involving dogs; and

WHEREAS, any attempt to broadly prohibit or impair hunting with dogs would represent an attack on lawful sporting traditions and would negatively affect hunters, dog owners, breeders, trainers, and rural communities; and

WHEREAS, the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana recognizes the importance of preserving lawful hunting traditions and protecting the rights of citizens to continue these time-honored practices in compliance with state law; and

WHEREAS, such federal overreach could negatively impact Louisiana's hunting economy, rural communities, and long-standing cultural traditions; and

WHEREAS, decisions regarding the use of hunting dogs are best left to individual states, which are more familiar with their unique ecosystems, traditions, and regulatory needs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to oppose any provisions in H.R. 7567, the "Farm, Food, and National Security Act" of 2026, that would restrict or limit the lawful use of hunting dogs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Louisiana Legislature urges members of the Louisiana congressional delegation to work diligently to prevent the inclusion of such provisions in any final version of the Farm Bill.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES