HLS 22RS-532 ENGROSSED

2022 Regular Session

1

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 18

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

WILDLIFE & FISHERIES: Creates the Feral Hog Management Advisory Task Force in the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To create the Feral Hog Management Advisory Task Force in the Department of Wildlife
3	and Fisheries.
4	WHEREAS, feral hogs (Sus scrofa), including European wild hogs and hybrids,
5	commonly weigh two hundred pounds but can easily weigh up to four hundred pounds, are
6	quickly becoming the most serious problem facing land managers and hunters in Louisiana;
7	and
8	WHEREAS, feral hogs are omnivorous but vegetation constitutes the largest portion
9	of their diet as they use their very tough nose that allows them to "root" for invertebrates,
10	tubers, or any other underground food, thereby disrupting crops, golf courses, levees,
11	hayfields, tree farms, and even lawns; and
12	WHEREAS, feral hogs are extremely prolific with generally two litters per year of
13	up to ten piglets per litter and feral hogs have virtually no natural predators so piglet survival
14	is nearly one hundred percent which allows the population to increase exponentially; and
15	WHEREAS, feral hogs are plagued by a multitude of diseases that can affect humans,
16	commercial swine operations, or wildlife, including swine brucellosis, pseudorabies, and
17	classical swine fever; and
18	WHEREAS, with their high proliferation and lack of natural predators, management
19	of feral hogs is of paramount importance to the state as part of a coordinated effort of
20	assessment, planning, exclusion, scouting, control, and monitoring to document and reduce

1 natural resource damage caused by feral hogs and focus interagency management efforts to

- 2 reduce impacts and health concerns for other animals and humans.
- THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
- 4 create the Feral Hog Management Advisory Task Force in the Department of Wildlife and
- 5 Fisheries as follows:
- A. There is hereby established the Feral Hog Management Advisory Task Force to
- 7 study and monitor the feral hog issues in the state of Louisiana and to make
- 8 recommendations for the management of feral hogs.
- 9 B. The task force shall be composed as follows:
- 10 (1) One member appointed from the staff of the Department of Wildlife and
- 11 Fisheries by the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to serve in an advisory
- 12 role as a nonvoting member.
- 13 (2) One member appointed from the staff of the Department of Agriculture and
- 14 Forestry by the commissioner of agriculture to serve in an advisory role as a nonvoting
- member.
- 16 (3) One member appointed by the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture
- 17 and Forestry from three nominations submitted by the Soil and Water Conservation
- 18 Commission.
- 19 (4) One member appointed by the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and
- Fisheries from three nominees submitted by the Louisiana Landowners Association.
- 21 (5) One member appointed by the commissioner of agriculture from three nominees
- submitted by the Louisiana Forestry Association.
- 23 (6) One member appointed by the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and
- Fisheries from three nominees submitted by the Louisiana Chapter of the National Deer
- 25 Association and Louisiana Wildlife Federation.
- 26 (7) One member appointed from the faculty of the LSU College of Agriculture
- appointed by the dean of the LSU College of Agriculture.
- 28 (8) One member appointed by the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and
- 29 Fisheries from three nominees submitted by the Louisiana Association of Professional
- 30 Biologists Louisiana Chapter of The Wildlife Society.

1 (9) One member appointed by the commissioner of agriculture from three nominees 2 submitted by the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation. 3 (10) One member appointed by the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and 4 Fisheries from three nominees submitted by the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana. 5 (11) One member appointed by the state conservationist for United States 6 Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service to serve in an advisory 7 role as a nonvoting member. 8 (12) One member appointed by the State Conservationist for United States 9 Department of Agriculture, representing United States Department of Agriculture Animal 10 Health and Plant Health Inspection Service/Wildlife Services Louisiana to serve in an 11 advisory role as a nonvoting member. 12 C. The members appointed under the provisions of Paragraphs (B)(1), (2), (11) and 13 (12) of this Section shall be considered members of the task force for determination of the 14 number of members necessary for a quorum and for establishing the presence of a quorum. 15 D. Six members of the task force shall constitute a quorum sufficient to conduct 16 meetings and business of the task force. The task force shall elect a chairman from its 17 membership and may seek and receive assistance from universities within the state in the 18 development of methods to manage feral hogs in the state of Louisiana. The members of the 19 task force shall serve without compensation; however, the task force may receive the same 20 reimbursement of travel expenses for attending task force meetings as is allowed for other 21 state employees' travel. 22 E. The task force is hereby charged with the following responsibilities: 23 (1) To provide an annual estimate of the population of feral hogs in Louisiana. 24 (2) To analyze the financial impact of feral hogs. 25 (3) To identify human health impacts from an increasing population of feral hogs 26 in Louisiana, include reporting of all diseases carried by feral hogs that can be transferred 27 to humans, wildlife, domesticated animals. (4) To identify and coordinate public outreach opportunities to educate about feral 28 29 hog control methods and the need for control to protect human health, native wildlife and 30 their habitat, farm land, levees and water quality.

1	(5) To identify available funding sources that can be used to assist Louisiana in
2	reduction and control methods.
3	(6) To coordinate efforts to control and reduce the population of feral hogs,
4	including private, local, state and federal efforts.
5	(7) To assess current control methods and effectiveness in population control.
6	(8) To identify alternative methods and potential for effectiveness in feral hog
7	population control.
8	(9) To assist in developing and evaluating new methods of control.
9	(10) To recommend programs needed and identify funding mechanisms.
10	(11) To coordinate enforcement and tracking of transport and movement of feral
11	hogs.
12	(12) To recommend regulations necessary to achieve goals of population control and
13	reduction.
14	F. The Feral Hog Management Advisory Task Force shall make recommendations
15	to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee
16	on Natural Resources from time to time as it sees fit.
17	G. The Feral Hog Management Advisory Task Force shall submit a report to the
18	House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on
19	Natural Resources no later than February 1, 2027, and shall cease to exist on March 1, 2027,
20	and thereafter.
21	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the
22	secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the commissioner of agriculture.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 18 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

McFarland

Creates the Feral Hog Management Advisory Task Force composed as follows:

(1) One member appointed from the staff of the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries by the secretary of the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries to serve in an advisory role as a nonvoting member.

One member appointed from the staff of the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry by the commissioner of agriculture to serve in an advisory role as a nonvoting member.

- (3) One member appointed by the commissioner of the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry from three nominations submitted by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission.
- (4) One member appointed by the secretary of the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries from three nominees submitted by the La. Landowners Association.
- One member appointed by the commissioner of agriculture from three nominees submitted by the La. Forestry Association.
- (6) One member appointed by the secretary of the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries from three nominees submitted by the La. Chapter of the National Deer Association and La. Wildlife Federation.
- (7) One member appointed from the faculty of the LSU College of Agriculture appointed by the dean of the LSU College of Agriculture.
- (8) One member appointed by the secretary of the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries from three nominees submitted by the La. Association of Professional Biologists La. Chapter of The Wildlife Society.
- (9) One member appointed by the commissioner of agriculture from three nominees submitted by the La. Farm Bureau Federation.
- (10) One member appointed by the secretary of the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries from three nominees submitted by the Association of Levee Boards of La.
- One member appointed by the state conservationist for U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service to serve in an advisory role as a nonvoting member.
- (12) One member appointed by the state conservationist for U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, representing USDA Animal Health and Plan Inspection Service/Wildlife Services La. to serve in an advisory role as a nonvoting member.

Provides that the members of the task force serve without compensation; however, authorizes them to receive the same reimbursement of travel expenses for attending the meetings as is allowed for other state employees' travel.

Provides for the responsibilities of the task force.

Requires the task force to submit a report by Feb. 1, 2027 and sunsets the task force on March 1, 2027.