

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 409

BY REPRESENTATIVE FIRMENT

WILDLIFE & FISHERIES: Provides relative to harassment of hunters, trappers, and fishermen on lands and waters managed by the state

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:648(2) and 648.1(introductory paragraph), relative to  
3 harassment and disturbance of hunters, trappers, and fishermen; to provide  
4 definitions; to expand the state lands and waters on which the prohibition against  
5 harassment and disturbance applies; to provide for the Northwest Louisiana Game  
6 and Fish Preserve; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 56:648(2) and 648.1(introductory paragraph) is hereby amended and  
9 reenacted to read as follows:

10 §648. Definitions

11 As used in this Subpart, the following definitions shall apply:

12 \* \* \*

13 (2) "Process of taking" means any act directed at the lawful taking of a wild  
14 animal, including the acts of travel, camping, or other activity occurring in  
15 preparation for the taking which occurs on state-managed lands or waters, including  
16 but not limited to the Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve, governed by the  
17 provisions of R.S. 56:781-R.S. 56:787 or which occurs on private lands or waters  
18 with the permission of the owner or his agent.

1 §648.1. Harassment and disturbance prohibited

2 No person shall engage in any of the following activities on lands or waters

3 managed by the state, including but not limited to the Northwest Louisiana Game

4 and Fish Preserve ~~pursuant to R.S. 56:781 through R.S. 56:787~~, or upon private lands

5 or waters where a hunter, trapper, or fisherman has been given permission by the

6 owner or his agent to take wild animals:

7 \* \* \*

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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)]

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HB 409 Original

2024 Regular Session

Firmen

**Abstract:** Prohibits the harassment and disturbance of trappers, hunters, and fishermen on all lands and waters managed by the state, including but not limited to the Northwest La. Game and Fish Preserve, rather than restricting the prohibition to state managed wildlife refuges, wildlife sanctuaries, wildlife management areas, public hunting grounds, and upland game preserves.

Present law prohibits the harassment and disturbance of trappers, hunters, and fishermen on lands and waters managed by the state pursuant to present law regarding wildlife refuges, wildlife sanctuaries, wildlife management areas, public hunting grounds, and upland game preserves.

Proposed law removes the restriction to state-managed wildlife refuges, wildlife sanctuaries, wildlife management areas, public hunting grounds, and upland game preserves in present law to prohibit harassment and disturbance of trappers, hunters, and fishermen on all state-managed lands and waters.

Proposed law further provides that the prohibition applies to the Northwest La. Game and Fish Preserve.

(Amends R.S. 56:648(2) and 648.1(intro. para.))