

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 532

BY REPRESENTATIVE FONTENOT

WILDLIFE & FISHERIES: Provides relative to the seizure of animals by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:39(A) and to enact R.S. 56:58(E), relative to forfeiture of
3 animals; to provide for disposition of seizures; to provide for illegal possession of
4 animals; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 56:39(A) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 56:58(E) is
7 hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §39. Forfeiture of quadrupeds, birds, and fish; Fish and Wildlife Violations Reward
9 Fund, creation and use of fund monies

10 A. In addition to all other penalties provided in this Chapter, violators
11 subject to the provisions of R.S. 56:31 through R.S. 56:37.1 or R.S. 14:63(G)(5) shall
12 upon conviction forfeit any quadrupeds, birds, fish, or other animals, or parts thereof,
13 seized in connection with said violation.

14 * * *

15 §58. Disposition of seizures other than vessels, airplanes, and other vehicles

16 * * *

17 E. Any live animal seized under the provisions of this Chapter that is illegal
18 to possess shall be immediately forfeited and no property right shall exist therein.
19 The department may dispose of the animal in any manner the department deems
20 appropriate, provided that any euthanasia is performed responsibly and humanely.

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)]

HB 532 Original

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Fontenot

Abstract: Provides relative to the disposition of animals seized by the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Present law specifies the extent of penalties applicable to violators of present law regulating wildlife and fisheries and specifies that upon conviction a violator must forfeit any quadrupeds, birds, fish, or other animals seized.

Proposed law clarifies language in present law related to forfeiture of quadrupeds, birds, fish, or other animals and adds "parts thereof" to the list of types of game subject to forfeiture.

Proposed law provides that any live animal seized under the provisions of present law that is illegal to possess must be forfeited as contraband and that the department may dispose of the animal in any manner they deem appropriate. Further specifies that if the animal is euthanized it must be done humanely.

(Amends R.S. 56:39(A); Adds R.S. 56:58(E))