

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2013
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB499

Hearing Date: Friday February 08, 2013
Committee On: Natural Resources
Introducer: Brasch
One Liner: Change powers and duties of Game and Parks Commission

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye:	7	Senators Brasch, Carlson, Dubas, Johnson, Kolowski, Schilz, Smith
Nay:		
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:	1	Senator Haar

Proponents:

Senator Lydia Brasch
Timothy McCoy

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 499 authorizes the Game and Parks Commission to pass "commission orders" for purposes of conservation orders, seasons, open and closed areas, and bag limits. Commission orders may be passed after due investigation and consideration of a number of hunting and fishing circumstances to affect a change. Orders may be amended, modified or repealed, and must be based on investigation and reliable data. Public hearings on commission orders and rules and regulations are required, with proper notice provided. Consideration of grave danger to bird, fish or wild animal populations may be a reason for the commission to use a special season closing or reopening provision.

Sections 3 through 16 of the bill amend 37-321 (taking of fish); 37-422 (daily fishing permits); 37-447 (deer hunting permits); 37-448 (special deer depredation season permits); 37-455 (limited deer, antelope, wild turkey or elk permits); 37-490 (closed seasons); 37-492 (game breeding limitations and controlled shooting areas); 37-4,107 (taking of bullfrogs); 37-501 (bag and possession limits); 37-503 (illegal possession of game); 37-543 (fishing offenses); 37-546 (baitfish offenses); 37-604 (game law enforcement); and 37-614 (revocation and suspension of permits), by adding reference to "commission orders." The addition would mean that "commission orders", in addition to rules and regulations adopted and promulgated, have to be followed as part of the law governing each topic.

Tom Carlson, Chairperson