

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2014
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB671

Hearing Date: Wednesday January 29, 2014
Committee On: Natural Resources
Introducer: Chambers
One Liner: Eliminate provisions relating to hunting and killing of mountain lions

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:
Aye: 6 Senators Carlson, Dubas, Haar, Johnson, Kolowski, Smith
Nay: 2 Senators Brasch, Schilz
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Proponents:

Senator Ernie Chambers
Bruce Kennedy
Alvin Guenther
Dana Hirschbach
Jarel Vinduska
Patricia Fuller
Angelika T.L. Byorth
David Mangelsen
Paul Johnsgard
Valerie Vierk

Representing:

Introducer
Wachiska Audubon Society
Self
Self
Self
Self
Self
Cougar Fund
Self
Self

Opponents:

Dean Forney
Wes Sheets
Henry Rick Brandt
Scott Smathers
Richard Edwards
Stacy Swinney

Representing:

Forney Family
Nebraska Division, Izaak Walton League
Nebraska Big Game Society
Nebraska Sportsman's Foundation
Self
Self

Neutral:

Jim Douglas
LeRoy Louden

Representing:

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
Self

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 671 would eliminate the statute that authorizes the Game and Parks Commission to issue permits to hunt mountain lions.

Explanation of amendments:

AM 1637 reinstates section 37-472 and the portions of section 37-559 that allow a farmer or rancher to kill a mountain

lion that is a threat to livestock on his or her property and allows a person to defend him or herself against a mountain lion. The original bill would have eliminated those provisions.

The bill also repeals outright section 37-473, which allows the Game and Parks Commission to issue mountain lion hunting permits.

Tom Carlson, Chairperson