

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2020
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB1173

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 12, 2020
Committee On: Natural Resources
Introducer: Erdman
One Liner: Provide for limited transferable permits to hunt either antelope, deer, or elk

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Indefinitely postponed

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Albrecht, Bostelman, Geist, Gragert, Halloran, Hughes, Moser, Quick

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Oral Testimony:

Proponents:

Joel Hunt
John Ross

Representing:

Introducer on behalf of Senator Steve Erdman
self

Opponents:

Timothy McCoy
Jim King
Scott Smathers
Mike Lutt
Jerry McDonald
Kit Hams
Frank Andelt
Terry Munter
James Kehr

Representing:

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
self
Nebraska Sportsmen's Foundation
Nebraska Bowhunters Association
Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever
self
self
self
self

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 1173 would amend various Game and Parks statutes to create a new class of limited, transferable permit to hunt either antelope, deer, or elk. These permits would be available to qualifying landowners, leaseholders, and family members when antelope, deer, or elk cause damage to their property. If the Game and Parks Commission ("the Commission") fails to respond to an application within 15 days, the applicant may kill any antelope, deer, or elk that is believed to be causing the damage.

Section by section summary:

Section 1 would add language to section 37-410 to create an exception for the limited transferable permits created in this bill.

Section 2 would add language to section 37-447 to allow a landowner or leaseholder to apply for a limited transferable permit to hunt deer whenever deer cause damage to their property or crops.

Section 3 would add language to section 37-449 to allow a landowner or leaseholder to apply for a limited transferable permit to hunt antelope whenever antelope cause damage to their property or crops.

Section 4 would add language to section 37-450 to allow a landowner or leaseholder to apply for a limited transferable permit to hunt elk whenever elk cause damage to their property or crops.

Section 5 would add language to section 37-455 to:

Extend limited permit provisions to qualifying landowner, leaseholders, and immediate family members; set landowner/leaseholder acre ownership requirements; list application requirements.

Provide that the Commission must issue or deny any qualifying application within 15 days of receiving an application, and if the Commission fails to respond in this time the applicant may kill or take all animals of that species believed to be causing the damage. The applicant then must report any kill or taking to the Commission within 3 days.

Establish transferable permits, specify that only one applicant may be granted a limited transferable permit for the same species on the same property, and state that issuance of a limited transferable permit does not preclude a permittee from obtaining any other hunting permit.

Section 6 would harmonize references in section 37-456.

Section 7 would amend section 37-560 to establish requirements for a landowner or leaseholder's damage report pursuant to a limited transferable permit application, and set requirements for the Commission's follow-up inspection.

Section 8 would repeal original sections.

Dan Hughes, Chairperson