

HB 1781 -- FERAL HOGS

SPONSOR: Fitzwater (144)

This bill modifies provisions relating to feral hogs. The bill specifies that a landowner, landowner's agent, or any person with written permission from the landowner may kill feral hogs on the landowner's own property and do so with the use of artificial light.

Currently, the penalty for releasing, possessing, or transporting feral hogs without a permit from the Department of Agriculture, is a class A misdemeanor for the first offense, and any subsequent identical offense committed within 10 years of the first offense is a class E felony. Under the provisions of the bill, a person may not obtain a permit for possessing or transporting feral hogs. Further, under these provisions, anyone releasing, possessing, or transporting feral hogs is guilty of a class A misdemeanor, must be assessed a \$1,000 fine for the first offense, and forfeit any hunting, fishing, or trapping permits held from the Department of Conservation. Additionally, he or she would forfeit the privilege of obtaining any such permit for the subsequent 3 years. For any second offense, the person shall be assessed a \$10,000 fine and permanently forfeit any hunting, fishing, or trapping permits held from the Department of Conservation.

This bill is the same as SB 617 (2016).