

HB 2427 -- FERAL HOGS

SPONSOR: Ross

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Conservation and Natural Resources by a vote of 4 to 2 with 1 voting present.

This bill specifies that a person may at any time take or kill as many feral hogs on his or her own property or on any other person's private property with the owner's permission, or on public land without obtaining a permit. However, this does not allow anyone taking a feral hog to trespass on another person's property.

The bill also removes the limitations on taking a feral hog with the use of an artificial light.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that much of the land in southern Missouri is held in public trust by either the state or federal governments. The policies of both the state and federal governments has lead to feral hogs taking refuge on public land, only to roam and destroy private land.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Ross; Mike Bell; Michael Bennett; Jason Burrus; Kenneth Burrus; Missouri Hunting Working Dog All; Dale Counts, Shannon County Commission; Brett Howell; Robert E. Howell; Landon Howell; Taylor Howell; Alan Kochn; Kathleen Keeling; Lyndell Keeling; Stacey L. Keeling; C. J. Landrigan; Bruce Lindsey; Joe Loyd, Reynold County Commission; Fred Mattison; Edward Piatt; Kenny Piatt; Jason Wayne Rutledge; Dylan Shepherd; Mackenzie Shoults; Dan Smith; Rolland Smotherman.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say this bill would put landowners and hunters in a compromising position due to conflicts between federal law, state statutes, and the Wildlife Code.

Testifying on the bill was the Missouri Department Of Conservation.