

HB 1320 -- FERAL SWINE

SPONSOR: Dinkins

Currently, any person who intentionally or knowingly releases any swine to live in the wild or possesses or transports certain live wild boar without a permit from the Department of Agriculture is guilty of a class A misdemeanor. This bill also requires any person found guilty to provide \$5,000 restitution for damages to the county commission of the county in which the offense occurred. The county commission must use the restitution as specified in the bill.

The bill also changes the term "feral hog" to "feral swine" and specifies that no person, except the landowner and his or her agent, may take or attempt to take a feral swine with the use of night vision, infrared, or thermal imaging devices. However, this does not prohibit a landowner or his or her agent from using such devices.

The bill also repeals the requirements for the Department of Agriculture to promulgate rules relating to fencing and health standards for certain wild boar and swine held on private property.

This bill is similar to HB 508 (2021) .