

By: Armbrister

S.C.R. No. 56

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Texas Legislature and the Parks and Wildlife Department have traditionally recognized the private landowner as the primary steward of our state's natural resources and have provided increased flexibility for wildlife management on private lands; and

WHEREAS, In order to preserve wildlife habitat or "wild land" use, the private landowner must receive economic benefit and continued flexibility in managing natural resources; and

WHEREAS, The traditional family farm or ranch in Texas is in danger of no longer being profitable, leading ultimately to the extinction and loss of our rural culture; and

WHEREAS, Deer, the most managed big game species in Texas, provide aesthetic and economic benefits to landowners on private property; and

WHEREAS, These private properties require strict control of deer herd numbers and demographics as a means to protect the resource from depletion and waste while allowing the landowner to achieve management goals; and

WHEREAS, The Parks and Wildlife Department has appointed the White-tailed Deer Advisory Committee to review current deer regulations and statutes and make recommendations to the department on appropriate actions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas

1 hereby direct the White-tailed Deer Advisory Committee to address
2 how habitat relates to the ecological diversity of the state and to
3 study the role of the wildlife biologist in the development of
4 management plans and in the utilization of suitable management
5 practices, including population goals and control, yearly census
6 data, supplemental feeding and food plots, and genetic management;
7 and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature direct the White-tailed
9 Deer Advisory Committee to study current deer management permits to
10 determine how to provide flexibility and economic incentives for
11 private landowners in preserving wildlife habitat; and, be it
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature direct the White-tailed
14 Deer Advisory Committee to meet with the members or staff of the
15 Senate Committee on Natural Resources, the members or staff of the
16 House Committee on State Cultural and Recreational Resources, and
17 the staff of the Parks and Wildlife Department on a quarterly basis
18 and to report findings from each meeting to the chairman of the
19 Senate Committee on Natural Resources, the chairman of the House
20 Committee on State Cultural and Recreational Resources, and the
21 chairman of the Parks and Wildlife Commission; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the secretary of state forward an official
23 copy of this resolution to the lieutenant governor, the speaker of
24 the house of representatives, the chairman of the Senate Natural
25 Resources Committee, the chairman of the House State Cultural and
26 Recreational Resources Committee, and the executive director of the
27 Parks and Wildlife Department.