

MAR 14 1997

NATURAL RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE
BY THOMAS

630

Passed House, Date _____

Passed Senate, Date _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to compensation of landowners or tenants for
2 agricultural crop damage caused by deer, wild turkey, and
3 other wildlife.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 481A.10A, Code 1997, is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 481A.10A FARMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE -- CROP DAMAGE
4 PAYMENTS.

5 1. The director shall establish a farmer advisory
6 committee for the purpose of providing information to the
7 department regarding crop and tree damage caused by deer, wild
8 turkey, and other predators. The committee shall serve
9 without compensation or reimbursement for expenses.
10 2. The department shall compensate the owners or tenants
11 of agricultural land for damages caused to corn, soybean, or
12 other agricultural crops grown on the agricultural land as
13 provided in this subsection.

14 a. The number of acres of the damaged crops shall be
15 determined by an officer of the department and a trustee of
16 the township in which the land is located or, if a trustee is
17 not available, by a member of the board of supervisors of the
18 county in which the land is located. The value of the damage
19 shall be based on the corn suitability rating established for
20 the agricultural land multiplied by the ten-year average corn
21 bushel-per-acre yield and the result multiplied by a corn
22 market price per bushel agreed to by the owner or tenant and
23 the department.

24 b. An application for a wildlife damage claim shall be
25 submitted to the department not later than December 31 of the
26 year in which damage occurred. The claims applications shall
27 be reviewed by the commission and approved or denied within
28 ninety days after receipt. The approved claims shall be paid
29 from moneys appropriated from the state fish and game
30 protection fund by April 1 of the year following the year in
31 which damage occurred. If there are insufficient funds
32 appropriated to pay all claims in full, the moneys shall be
33 prorated to the approved claims.

34 c. A claimant may seek judicial review of a denied
35 application in the district court of the county in which the

1 alleged damage occurred pursuant to section 17A.19.

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EXPLANATION

3 This bill provides that agricultural landowners and tenants
4 may receive payment for damages caused to their agricultural
5 crops by deer, wild turkey, and other wildlife. The number of
6 acres of cropland damaged is to be determined by a department
7 of natural resources officer and a local township trustee or
8 member of the board of supervisors. The value of the crop
9 loss is calculated by the corn suitability rating multiplied
10 by the 10-year average corn yield and the result multiplied by
11 the market value of a bushel of corn.

12 An application for a damage claim shall be submitted to the
13 department not later than December 31 of the year that the
14 damage occurred and approved or denied within 90 days.

15 Approved claims shall be paid from moneys appropriated from
16 the state fish and game protection fund. If the appropriation
17 is insufficient to pay the claims in full, the moneys shall be
18 prorated to the approved claims.

19 A claimant whose application has been denied may seek
20 judicial review in the district court.

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