

Senate Study Bill 3162 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENT BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON DEARDEN)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring the department of natural resources to conduct
2 pheasant studies, contingent on outside funding, and
3 including a repeal.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **481A.6B Pheasant population studies**
2 **— reports.**

3 1. The department, in cooperation with private and public
4 partners, shall conduct a multiyear study to determine the
5 effectiveness of stocking wild or first-generation pheasants
6 in the state.

7 2. The department, in cooperation with private and public
8 partners, shall stock wild or first-generation pheasants
9 in an area with suitable pheasant habitat that has a very
10 low or no wild pheasant population. The rate at which the
11 pheasant population changes over time in the stocked area shall
12 be compared to the rate of change in another area where no
13 pheasants have been stocked. Both areas shall be located in
14 the southern half of the state. The results of the study shall
15 be published and made available to the public at the conclusion
16 of the study.

17 3. The department shall collect a sufficient amount of new
18 data as is necessary to confirm or revise population parameters
19 used by the department to predict pheasant population change.
20 A report discussing the data collected and the changes made to
21 the department's pheasant population prediction model, if any,
22 shall be submitted to the general assembly and made available
23 to the public by December 31, 2015.

24 4. The department, in cooperation with an institution under
25 the control of the state board of regents, shall also conduct a
26 study to determine the economic impact of pheasant hunting in
27 Iowa. The study shall focus on the impact to rural areas of the
28 state and to small communities. A report on the results of the
29 study shall be submitted to the general assembly by December
30 31, 2014.

31 5. The duties imposed in this section are contingent on
32 the receipt of outside funding by the department sufficient to
33 cover the costs associated with the studies required.

34 6. This section is repealed June 30, 2016.

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EXPLANATION

1 This bill requires the department of natural resources, in
2 cooperation with private and public partners, to conduct a
3 multiyear study to determine the effectiveness of stocking wild
4 or first-generation pheasants in the state.

5 The department, along with partners, must stock wild or
6 first-generation pheasants in an area with suitable pheasant
7 habitat that has a very low or no wild pheasant population.
8 The rate at which the pheasant population changes over time
9 in the stocked area is to be compared to the rate of change
10 in another area where no pheasants have been stocked. The
11 results of the study shall be published and made available to
12 the public.

13 The department is required to collect sufficient data to
14 confirm or revise population parameters used by the department
15 to predict pheasant population change. A report discussing
16 the data collected and the changes made to the department's
17 pheasant population prediction model, if any, is to be
18 submitted to the general assembly and made available to the
19 public by December 31, 2015.

20 The department, in cooperation with a regents institution,
21 is also required to conduct a study that determines the
22 economic impact of pheasant hunting in Iowa, focusing on the
23 impact to rural Iowa and to small communities. A report of the
24 results of the study shall be submitted to the general assembly
25 by December 31, 2014.

26 The duties imposed in the bill are contingent on the receipt
27 of outside funding by the department sufficient to cover
28 the costs associated with the studies required. The bill
29 provisions are repealed June 30, 2016.