

House File 2627 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2627
BY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2038)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to deer depredation.

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

1 Section 1. Section 481C.2, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2026,
2 are amended to read as follows:

3 1. The director of the department of natural resources shall
4 enter into a memorandum of agreement with the United States
5 department of agriculture, animal damage control division.
6 The wild animal depredation unit shall serve and act as the
7 liaison to the department for the producers in the state who
8 suffer ~~crop, horticultural product, tree, or nursery damage~~ an
9 economic loss to agriculture, horticulture, or silviculture
10 operations due to wild animals.

11 2. The department shall issue depredation permits and
12 deer shooting permits to any landowner or tenant, as defined
13 under section 483A.24, subsection 2, upon receiving written
14 approval from the landowner, who incurs ~~crop, horticultural~~
15 ~~product, tree, or nursery damage~~ suffers an economic loss of
16 one thousand dollars or more to agriculture, horticulture, or
17 silviculture operations due to wild animals. The department
18 shall allow any conservation officer to issue permits pursuant
19 to this chapter.

20 Sec. 2. Section 481C.2A, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code
21 2026, is amended to read as follows:

22 a. Deer shooting permits shall be available for issuance
23 to landowners or tenants, as defined under section 483A.24,
24 subsection 2, upon receiving written approval from the
25 landowner, who incur ~~crop, horticultural product, tree,~~
26 ~~or nursery damage~~ suffer an economic loss to agriculture,
27 horticulture, or silviculture operations as provided in section
28 481C.2 and shall be available for issuance for use on areas
29 where public safety may be an issue.

30 EXPLANATION

31 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
32 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

33 This bill relates to deer depredation. Under current law,
34 eligibility for the wild animal depredation program requires a
35 producer to have suffered "crop, horticultural product, tree,

1 or nursery damage due to wild animals". The bill changes this
2 eligibility requirement to cover a producer who has suffered
3 "economic loss to agriculture, horticulture, or silviculture
4 operations due to wild animals".

5 The bill authorizes any conservation officer to issue
6 depredation permits or deer shooting permits (permits). In
7 addition to landowners as currently allowed, the bill allows
8 tenants to receive permits with written approval from the
9 landlord.