

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 48th Legislature (2002)

HOUSE BILL HB2235

By: Jones

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to game and fish; amending 29 O.S. 2001, Section 5-406.1, which relates to the Double-crested Cormorant; deleting certain declarations and requirements; directing the Wildlife Conservation Commission to establish an open season on Cormorants; authorizing the Commission to establish certain rules; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 29 O.S. 2001, Section 5-406.1, is amended to read as follows:

~~Section 5-406.1 The Double-Crested Cormorant, often popularly referred to as a "water turkey", is hereby declared a nuisance. As such, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation will work with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation to eliminate international treaty protection for the cormorant and implement maximum control measures, including but not limited to setting hunting seasons as appropriate~~

The Wildlife Conservation Commission shall declare an open season on the Double-Crested Cormorant in any counties or parts of counties of this state where, in the judgment of the Commission, the Cormorant exists in sufficient quantity to warrant an open season. The Commission is authorized to prescribe rules necessary to the proper conduct and policing of the open season on Cormorants, the amount that may be taken, and the dates and time limits of the season. The establishment of an open season for Cormorants shall also be subject to the provisions of Section 5-401 of this title.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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