

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 14, 2017

3 SENATE BILL NO. 238

By: Boggs

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5
6 An Act relating to wildlife services; amending 2 O.S.
7 2011, Section 12-1, which relates to wildlife damage
8 management agreements and purchases; adding feral
9 swine; clarifying statutory language; amending 2 O.S.
10 2011, Section 12-2, which relates to authorization to
11 carry firearms; authorizing agents to carry firearms;
12 clarifying statutory language; and providing an
13 effective date.

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 2 O.S. 2011, Section 12-1, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Section 12-1. A. The ~~State~~ Oklahoma Department of Agriculture,
18 Food, and Forestry shall enter into a written agreement on behalf of
19 the State of Oklahoma with the United States Department of
20 Agriculture Wildlife Services, ~~Animal and Plant Health Inspection~~
21 ~~Service, United States Department of Agriculture~~. The agreement
22 shall be for the purpose of cooperating with Wildlife Services,
23 ~~United States Department of Agriculture~~, in conducting wildlife
24 damage management for beavers, coyotes, bobcats, feral swine, and
other wildlife or invasive species causing destruction to livestock,

1 poultry, crops, range land, forests, and other resources, including
2 human health and safety.

3 B. Wildlife damage management of predatory animals and other
4 ~~wildlife~~ species causing damage shall include but not be limited to
5 hunting, trapping, or other practical methods for the control of
6 ~~wildlife~~ damage to resources. Operations shall be directly
7 supervised by United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife
8 Services in association with the Department. The Department is
9 authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with counties,
10 associations, corporations, and individuals for hunting and trapping
11 operations and control of wildlife damage.

12 C. In cooperation with Wildlife Services, the Department is
13 authorized to purchase ~~wildlife~~ animal damage management supplies,
14 including but not limited to bait, for cooperating governmental
15 agencies, counties, associations, corporations, and individuals for
16 the control of damage caused by predatory animals and other ~~wildlife~~
17 species. The Department shall make these supplies and baits
18 available to cooperators at approximate cost. The receipts from the
19 sale of supplies and baits shall be credited to the State Department
20 of Agriculture Revolving Fund.

21 D. Furs, skins, ~~and~~ specimens, or other parts or byproducts of
22 commercial value collected by ~~wildlife services~~ Wildlife Services
23 agents shall be sold upon sealed bids after advertisement of the
24 sales, as prescribed by the Department. The proceeds of all sales

1 shall be credited to the State Department of Agriculture Revolving
2 Fund. Any specimen may be presented, free of charge, to any state
3 institution subject to the jurisdiction and control of the State of
4 Oklahoma. No bounty shall be collected from any source for
5 ~~predatory~~ animals and wildlife taken by ~~wildlife services~~ Wildlife
6 Services agents operating pursuant to a cooperative agreement.

7 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 2 O.S. 2011, Section 12-2, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 Section 12-2. It shall be lawful for an authorized agent of the
10 State Board of Agriculture engaged in wildlife damage management,
11 pursuant to the provisions of Section 12-1 of this title, to carry a
12 ~~clip-loaded or magazine-loaded rifle or shotgun in a vehicle,~~
13 ~~provided the rifle or shotgun is not chamber-loaded~~ firearms in the
14 course of their official duties. Authorized agents shall
15 successfully pass a background check by the Oklahoma Department of
16 Agriculture, Food, and Forestry and be trained in accordance with
17 United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services guidelines
18 for the use of firearms in wildlife damage management.

19 The names of agents authorized by the Board to carry a ~~rifle and~~
20 ~~shotgun~~ firearms shall be furnished to the Department of Public
21 Safety.

22 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.

23 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND WILDLIFE
24 February 14, 2017 - DO PASS