

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB492
Version:	CCSA
Request Number:	2196
Author:	Rep. Hardin
Date:	5/17/2023
Impact:	Please see previous summary of this measure

Research Analysis

The conference committee substitute for SB 492 creates the "Wildfire Reimbursement Revolving Fund" and appropriates \$5 million into it. The Department of Agriculture is required to use the funds for reimbursing rural fire departments and the Oklahoma Forestry Service for expenses accrued while extinguishing fires that were not fully extinguished in the first 24 hours and involved more than one fire department.

Further, the measure modifies provisions of law around the commercial harvesting of animals.

The measure:

- Authorizes the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry to issue commercial harvesting licenses to eligible commercial harvesting facilities;
- Prohibits the capturing and raising of wild animals, and requires any person obtaining or renewing a commercial harvesting license to submit proof that any new animals are not state-owned wildlife;
- Authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture or State Veterinarian to inspect a commercial harvesting facility at any time if there is probable cause of a violation;
- Sets the fee for a commercial harvesting facility license at \$300 annually; and
- Requires such licenses to expire August 31st of each year.

Prepared By: Emily Byrne

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is currently under review and impact information will be completed.

Prepared By: House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.

