

1 HB427  
2 217659-3  
3 By Representatives Sorrells, Stadthagen, Marques, Dismukes,  
4 Lipscomb, Brown (C), Shedd, Farley, Estes, Faust, Brown (K),  
5 Smith, Isbell, Oliver, Hurst, Standridge, Kitchens,  
6 Easterbrook and Simpson  
7 RFD: State Government  
8 First Read: 01-MAR-22

8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would establish a commercial deer  
9 hunting preserve licensing program for artificially  
10 propagated deer on area bound by enclosures which  
11 effectively restrict the ingress and egress of  
12 deer, and impose a licensing fee.

13 This bill would do all of the following for  
14 commercial deer hunting preserve: Extend the  
15 hunting season; allow for deer to be hunted by any  
16 weapon lawfully used for any deer hunting; and  
17 exempt from a person's bag limit deer harvested  
18 from a commercial deer hunting preserve.

19 This bill would require any person hunting  
20 on a commercial deer hunting preserve to have the  
21 proper hunting licenses.

22 This bill would also authorize certain  
23 public officers to enter the property, to enforce  
24 game and fish laws, and revoke a commercial hunting  
25 preserve license for violations, and authorize the  
26 Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to  
27 adopt rules.

1  
2 A BILL  
3 TO BE ENTITLED  
4 AN ACT

5  
6 Relating to deer hunting; to establish a commercial  
7 deer hunting preserve licensing program; to provide for  
8 issuance of licenses and licensing fees; to provide for  
9 enforcement by the Department of Conservation and Natural  
10 Resources; and to authorize the Department of Conservation and  
11 Natural Resources to adopt rules.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

13 Section 1. Any person desiring to operate a  
14 commercial cervidae preserve on areas bounded by enclosure  
15 which effectively restricts the ingress and egress of such  
16 cervidae in ordinary circumstances on which artificially  
17 propagated cervidae may be hunted, taken, captured, killed,  
18 harvested, or otherwise recovered shall obtain a cervidae  
19 hunting preserve license and comply with this act and all  
20 rules adopted by the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural  
21 Resources governing the operation of cervidae hunting  
22 preserves.

23 Section 2. Game that may be hunted on a commercial  
24 preserve licensed under this act shall be artificially  
25 propagated or pen-raised white-tailed deer, or other species  
26 of cervidae as the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural  
27 Resources shall designate.

1           Section 3. The license fee for operating a  
2 commercial cervidae hunting preserve shall be five hundred  
3 dollars (\$500) per year. Upon application to the judge of  
4 probate of the county in which the hunting area is located and  
5 payment of the license fee required in this subsection and an  
6 issuance fee of two dollars (\$2), the judge of probate shall  
7 issue a privilege license to operate a commercial cervidae  
8 hunting preserve to the applicant. Privilege licenses to  
9 operate commercial cervidae hunting preserves shall be issued  
10 on forms prescribed by the Commissioner of Conservation and  
11 Natural Resources furnished to the judge of probate. All fees  
12 collected by the judge of probate for issuing commercial  
13 cervidae hunting preserve licenses shall be remitted at the  
14 same time and the same manner that hunting and fishing license  
15 fees are remitted and paid into the Game and Fish Fund of the  
16 Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

17           Section 4. (a) There shall be no daily limit as to  
18 the number of released artificially propagated cervidae  
19 commercially taken or recovered by patrons under this act. The  
20 period during which artificially propagated cervidae may be  
21 hunted, taken, captured, killed, or otherwise recovered on  
22 commercial hunting preserves shall begin on October 1 of each  
23 year and extend through February 10 of the following calendar  
24 year.

25           (b) Any cervidae hunted, taken, captured, killed, or  
26 otherwise recovered on commercial hunting preserves shall be  
27 recorded and reported as required by the Department of

1 Conservation and Natural Resources, but shall not count  
2 towards the patron's bag limits for the season.

3 (c) Any cervidae may be hunted, taken, captured,  
4 killed, or otherwise recovered on commercial hunting preserves  
5 by any weapon that may lawfully be used for any deer hunting  
6 in any season within the state.

7 (d) Hunting preserve operators shall ensure that any  
8 hunting conducted on a commercial hunting preserve is in  
9 compliance with Section 9-11-501, Code of Alabama 1975.

10 Section 5. Alabama hunting licenses shall be  
11 required of all persons hunting on licensed commercial  
12 cervidae hunting preserves. Alabama residents shall be  
13 licensed pursuant to established state law. Nonresidents shall  
14 be required to possess a regular nonresident annual hunting  
15 license or nonresident trip hunting license.

16 Section 6. Duly authorized agents of the Department  
17 of Conservation and Natural Resources, game wardens, and other  
18 law enforcement officers duly authorized to enforce game and  
19 fish laws shall have authority to enforce all game and fish  
20 laws, except as otherwise provided, on commercial hunting  
21 preserves and are authorized to enter and inspect licensed  
22 commercial hunting preserves for such purposes.

23 Section 7. Any person who is found guilty of  
24 operating a licensed commercial hunting preserve in violation  
25 of this act, upon conviction, shall have his or her commercial  
26 hunting preserve license revoked.

1                   Section 8. The Commissioner of the Department of  
2 Conservation and Natural Resources may adopt rules to  
3 implement and enforce this act.

4                   Section 9. This act shall become effective on the  
5 first day of the third month following its passage and  
6 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.