

1 HB147  
2 173342-1  
3 By Representatives Ainsworth, Sessions, Hanes, Williams (JW),  
4 Whorton (R), Ledbetter, Pettus, Ingram, McMillan, Shiver and  
5 Moore (B)  
6 RFD: Agriculture and Forestry  
7 First Read: 09-FEB-16

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would declare that feral swine  
9 (wild hogs) are a destructive and invasive species  
10 and would require the Department of Conservation  
11 and Natural Resources to adopt certain rules to  
12 reduce the feral swine population and protect  
13 public health, property, and other native wildlife.

14 This bill would also prohibit the  
15 transportation of feral swine within the state  
16 unless authorized by department rule and would  
17 prohibit the possession of feral swine.

18  
19 A BILL  
20 TO BE ENTITLED  
21 AN ACT

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23 Relating to feral swine; to declare that feral swine  
24 are a destructive and invasive species; to require the  
25 Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to adopt  
26 certain rules to reduce the feral swine population and protect  
27 public health and property; to prohibit the transportation of

1 feral swine within the state; and to prohibit the possession  
2 of feral swine.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares  
5 that the growing population of feral swine (wild hogs) in this  
6 state has an increased detrimental impact on private property,  
7 the agriculture industry, public health, and other native  
8 wildlife.

9 (b) Feral swine are deemed to be a destructive and  
10 invasive species.

11 (c) To reduce the feral swine population and protect  
12 public health, property, and other native wildlife, the  
13 Department of Conservation and Natural Resources shall adopt  
14 rules providing that:

15 (1) A person may harvest feral swine only during  
16 daylight hours and by using any firearm and ammunition legal  
17 for the harvest of big game.

18 (2) A person may harvest feral swine using live  
19 traps with bait, except during big game hunting seasons. All  
20 feral swine shall be dispatched prior to removal from a trap.

21 (3) Designate certain counties for inclusion in an  
22 experimental eradication program in which a person may use  
23 dogs for the hunting of feral swine.

24 (4) A person in any county in the state may request  
25 an exemption from the department to use dogs to hunt feral  
26 swine, for the hunting of feral swine at night with the aid of  
27 artificial light, or for the use of live traps with bait. The

1 department shall establish criteria for the granting of the  
2 exemptions.

3 (5) Prohibit the transportation of feral swine  
4 within the state, except for limited exceptions determined by  
5 the department.

6 (6) Prohibit the possession of feral swine.

7 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the  
8 first day of the third month following its passage and  
9 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.