

SF 7: Animal Damage Management Program

2008 Budget Session

Sponsor: Joint Agriculture, State and Public Lands and Water Resources Interim Committee

SF 7 repealed the sunset date for Wyoming's animal damage management program (i.e., state funded predator control). This program operates under the direction of a 12-member board that is appointed by the Governor. Its stated purpose is to mitigate damage caused to livestock, wildlife and crops by predatory animals, and to protect human health and safety. The program was slated to expire on January 1, 2009.

Proponents of SF 7 believed the predator control program is providing a beneficial service to agricultural producers, landowners and the public in general by controlling predator numbers. They argued that predator control can increase wildlife game populations, thus potentially benefiting hunters.

Opponents argued that the predator control program is a waste of taxpayer money, citing studies that demonstrate the ineffectiveness of predator control on coyotes (which are the most common target of predator control efforts in Wyoming). They maintained that many lethal predator control activities (trapping, poisoning, etc.) kill non-target animals. They noted the lack of scientific studies to support the claim that predator control leads to increased numbers of game animals, and pointed to studies showing increased predation on sage grouse by fox in areas where coyotes are aggressively controlled.

Opponents to SF 7 argued that a sunset date should be maintained for this program, to ensure that it does not become a permanent part of Wyoming government.

An amendment to extend the sunset date for the predator control program for two years instead of totally repealing it failed in both the House and the Senate. The House passed the bill, 53-7 and the Senate passed it, 19-10 (1 excused).

The votes listed below are the Senate and House third reading (final passage) votes. A YES vote means the legislator wanted to repeal the sunset date on Wyoming's state predator control program, and continue the program indefinitely into the future. A NO vote means the legislator did not want repeal the sunset date for the program.

Bighorn Basin Legislators		SF 7 H 3rd	SF 7 S 3rd
S 18	Hank Coe (R)		Yes
H 24	Colin Simpson (R)	Yes	
H 50	Pat Childers (R)	Yes	
S 19	Ray Peterson (R)		Yes
H 25	Alan Jones (R)	Yes	
H 26	Elaine Harvey (R)	Yes	
S 20	Gerald E. Geis (R)		Yes
H 27	Debbie Hammons (D)	Yes	
H 28	Lorraine Quarberg (R)	Yes	

Casper-Area Legislators		SF 7 H 3rd	SF 7 S 3rd
S 27	Bill Landen (R)		Yes
H 35	Roy Cohee (R)	Yes	
H 36	Mary Hales (R)	Yes	
S 28	Kit Jennings (R)		Yes
H 56	Tim Stubson (R)	Yes	
H 57	Thomas A. Lockhart (R)	Yes	
S 29	Drew A Perkins (R)		Yes
H 37	Steve Harshman (R)	Yes	
H 59	Mary Gilmore (D)	No	
S 30	Charles K. Scott (R)		No
H 38	Bob Brechtel (R)	Yes	
H 58	Lisa Shepperson (R)	Yes	

Cheyenne-Area Legislators		SF 7 H 3rd	SF 7 S 3rd
S 4	Tony Ross (R)		Excused
H 7	Doug Samuelson (R)	Yes	
H 41	Ken A Esquibel (D)	Yes	
S 5	Robert (Bob) Fecht (R)		Yes
H 8	Lori Millin (D)	Yes	
H 42	Pete Illoway (R)	Yes	
S 6	Wayne H. Johnson (R)		Yes
H 9	David Zwonitzer (R)	Yes	
H 10	Rodney "Pete" Anderson (R)	Yes	
S 7	Kathryn Sessions (D)		No
H 11	Mary Throne (D)	No	
H 43	Dan Zwonitzer (R)	No	
S 8	E. Jayne Mockler (D)		No
H 12	Amy L Edmonds (R)	Yes	
H 44	Floyd Esquibel (D)	Yes	

Gillette-Area Legislators		SF 7 H 3rd	SF 7 S 3rd
S 23	John Hines (R)		Yes
H 31	Thomas E. Lubnau II (R)	Yes	
H 52	Sue Wallis (R)	Yes	
S 24	Michael Von Flatern (R)		No
H 32	Timothy Hallinan (R)	Yes	
H 53	Erin Mercer (R)	Yes	

Lander/Riverton-Area Legislators		SF 7 H 3rd	SF 7 S 3rd
S 25	Cale Case (R)		No
H 33	W. Patrick Goggles (D)	Yes	
H 54	Del McOmie (R)	Yes	
S 26	Eli Bebout (R)		Yes
H 34	Frank Philp (R)	Yes	
H 55	David Miller (R)	Yes	

Northeast/East Central WY Legislators		SF 7 H 3rd	SF 7 S 3rd
S 1	C.L. Townsend (R)		Yes
H 1	Mark Semlek (R)	Yes	
H 2	Ross Diercks (D)	Yes	
S 2	Jim Anderson (R)		Yes
H 5	Matt Teeters (R)	Yes	
H 6	Dave Edwards (R)	Yes	
S 3	Curt Meier (R)		Yes
H 3	Deborah Alden (R)	No	
H 4	Edward A. Buchanan (R)	Yes	

Sheridan-Area Legislators		SF 7 H 3rd	SF 7 S 3rd
S 21	Bruce Burns (R)		No
H 29	Jerry Iekel (R)	Yes	
H 51	Rosie Berger (R)	Yes	
S 22	John Schiffer (R)		Yes
H 30	Jack Landon (R)	No	
H 40	Mike Madden (R)	Yes	

South Central WY Legislators		SF 7 H 3rd	SF 7 S 3rd
S 9	Mike Massie (D)		No
H 13	Jane Warren (D)	No	
H 45	Kevin A. White (R)	Yes	
S 10	Phil Nicholas (R)		Yes
H 14	Kermit C. Brown (R)	Yes	
H 46	James Slater (R)	Yes	
S 11	Bill Vasey (D)		Yes
H 15	George Bagby (D)	Yes	
H 47	William Steward (R)	Yes	

Southwest WY Legislators		SF 7 H 3rd	SF 7 S 3rd
S 12	Rae Lynn Job (D)		No
H 48	Marty Martin (D)	Yes	
H 16	Pete Jorgensen (D)	Yes	
S 13	John M Hastert (D)		No
H 17	Bernadine Craft (D)	Yes	
H 60	Bill Thompson (D)	Yes	
S 14	Stan Cooper (R)		Yes
H 18	Allen Jaggi (R)	Yes	
H 39	Stan Blake (D)	Yes	
S 15	Ken Decaria (D)		Yes
H 19	Owen Petersen (R)	Yes	
H 49	Sandra Meyer (D)	Yes	

West Central WY Legislators		SF 7 H 3rd	SF 7 S 3rd
S 16	Pat Aullman (R)		Yes
H 20	Kathy Davison (R)	Yes	
H 21	Dan Dockstader (R)	Yes	
S 17	Grant Larson (R)		No
H 22	Monte Olsen (R)	Yes	
H 23	Keith Gingery (R)	No	
See Southwest Region for H 16 and S 12			