

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 25

Whereas, recognizing that chronic wasting disease has impacted the state and threatens Missouri deer, deer hunters, wildlife enthusiasts, and landowners; and

Whereas, a disproportionate negative impact on certain areas of the state that depend on a healthy and vibrant deer population has been felt; and

Whereas, Missouri jobs, businesses, and communities are strongly supported by the economic activity related to hunting; and

Whereas, encouraging a safe, healthy, and lucrative hunting industry in Missouri will give rise to good paying jobs, significant economic development, and profitable recreational activity:

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-eighth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby create the Missouri Wildlife Revitalization Task Force; and

Be It Further Resolved that the mission of the task force shall be to fully consider:

- (1) Establishing a wildlife focus area in certain areas of the state that have been most negatively impacted by chronic wasting disease;
- (2) Ways to revitalize hunting and outdoor activities in certain areas of the state after a chronic wasting disease containment plan has been initiated;
- (3) Legislative proposals including rules and regulations necessary for implementation relating to the promotion of the hunting industry;
- (4) The effects of chronic wasting disease on certain areas in Missouri, including counties that have experienced confirmed cases of the disease, and how the enactment or establishment of certain proposals may curtail such effects; and

Be It Further Resolved that the task force be authorized to call upon any department, office, division, or agency of this state to assist in gathering information pursuant to its objective; and

Be It Further Resolved that the task force shall consist of all of the following members:

- (1) One member of the General Assembly of the majority party appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate to serve as the chair of the task force, with preference given to General Assembly members serving the affected area;
- (2) One member of the General Assembly of the majority party and one member of the General Assembly of the minority party appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate to serve as members of the task force, with preference given to General Assembly members serving the affected area; and
- (3) One member of the General Assembly of the majority party appointed by the Speaker of the House of representatives, with preference given to a General Assembly member serving the affected area, to serve as the vice-chair and secretary of the task force, and who will provide an agenda and report minutes of the task force; and
- (4) One member of the General Assembly of the majority party and one member of the General Assembly of the minority party appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives to serve as members of the task force, with preference given to a General Assembly member serving the affected area; and
- (5) One member from Quail Forever, Incorporated appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate to serve as a member of the task force;

(6) One member from Pheasants Forever, Incorporated appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate to serve as a member of the task force;

(7) One member from Whitetails Unlimited appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives to serve as a member of the task force;

(8) One member from the Conservation Federation of Missouri appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives to serve as a member of the task force;

(9) Two members owning land in an affected area appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate to serve as members of the task force;

(10) Two members owning land in an affected area appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives to serve as members of the task force; and

Be It Further Resolved that the staff of Senate Research and House Research shall provide such legal, research, clerical, technical, and bill drafting services as the task force may require in the performance of its duties; and

Be It Further Resolved that the task force, its members, and any staff assigned to the committee shall receive reimbursement for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in attending meetings of the committee; and

Be It Further Resolved that the chair or vice-chair and secretary of the task force shall call an organizational meeting within fifteen days of the adoption of this resolution; and

Be It Further Resolved that the task force shall terminate by either a majority of members voting for termination, or by December 31, 2015, whichever occurs first; and

Be It Further Resolved that on the date of termination, the task force may deliver a report of findings and recommendations to the General Assembly and the Missouri Department of Conservation; and

Be It Further Resolved that this resolution does not amend any state law to which the Department of Conservation or the Department of Agriculture is subject, and shall be interpreted to be consistent with any requirements of such state or federal law; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the Director of the Department of Conservation.