

Assembly Bill No. 70–Committee on Natural Resources

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to wildlife; revising provisions relating to the authorized uses of certain fees for processing each application for a game tag; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

Existing law provides that in addition to any fee charged and collected for a game tag, a fee of \$3 must be charged for processing each application for a game tag, the revenue from which must be deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the Wildlife Account in the State General Fund and used by the Department of Wildlife for costs related to certain programs and activities, including, without limitation, wildlife management activities relating to the protection of nonpredatory game animals and sensitive wildlife species and conducting research relating to managing and controlling predatory wildlife. (NRS 502.253) This bill revises the wildlife management activities for which the Department may use the proceeds of such fees to provide that the Department, at the direction of the applicant, may instead use the proceeds of such fees only for: (1) developing and implementing an annual program for the lethal removal of predatory wildlife; or (2) developing and implementing an annual program for the improvement of wildlife habitat and research or management activities beneficial to nonpredatory game species.

Existing law also requires that the Department expend on any program developed for the management and control of predatory wildlife not less than 80 percent of the total money collected from the \$3 application processing fee in the most recent fiscal year for which the Department has information. (NRS 502.253) This bill removes the minimum 80 percent expenditure requirement for programs developed for the management and control of predatory wildlife.

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** NRS 502.253 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.253 1. In addition to any fee charged and collected pursuant to NRS 502.250, a fee of \$3 must be charged for processing each application for a game tag, the revenue from which must be accounted for separately, deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the Wildlife Account in the State General Fund and used by the Department , *at the direction of the applicant*, for costs related to:

- (a) Developing and implementing an annual program for the ~~management and control~~ *lethal removal* of predatory wildlife; *or*
- (b) ~~Wildlife management activities relating to the protection of nonpredatory game animals and sensitive wildlife species; and~~



~~—(c) Conducting research necessary to determine successful techniques for managing and controlling predatory wildlife.]~~  
*Developing and implementing an annual program for the improvement of wildlife habitat and research or management activities beneficial to nonpredatory game species.*

2. The Department of Wildlife is hereby authorized to expend a portion of the money collected pursuant to subsection 1 to enable the State Department of Agriculture to develop and carry out the programs described in subsection 1.

3. Any program developed or wildlife management activity or research conducted pursuant to this section must be developed or conducted under the guidance of the Commission in accordance with the provisions of subsection 4 and the policies adopted by the Commission pursuant to NRS 501.181.

4. The Department ~~is~~  
~~—(a) In~~, *in* adopting any program for the ~~management and control~~ *lethal removal* of predatory wildlife developed pursuant to this section, shall first consider the recommendations of the Commission and the State Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee created by NRS 567.020.

~~[(b) Shall not adopt any program for the management and control of predatory wildlife developed pursuant to this section that provides for the expenditure of less than 80 percent of the amount of money collected pursuant to subsection 1 in the most recent fiscal year for which the Department has complete information for the purposes of lethal management and control of predatory wildlife.]~~

5. The money in the Wildlife Account credited pursuant to this section remains in the Account and does not revert to the State General Fund at the end of any fiscal year.

**Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.

