

HJR 87 -- HUNTING AND FISHING PRIVILEGES

SPONSOR: Basye

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Conservation and Natural Resources by a vote of 6 to 3.

Upon voter approval, this Constitutional amendment allows any United States citizen who is not a Missouri resident but owns at least 75 acres of property in Missouri to receive resident hunting, fishing, or trapping permit privileges.

This bill is similar to HB 1657 (2018).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that people who own property in the state pay taxes to the state and should be allowed to the same privileges as resident landowners. Nonresident landowners should have the right to harvest the wildlife on their property without having to pay up to \$225 for a permit.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Basye and George Bayse.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that Missouri offers some of the lowest non-resident hunting permits and no other state offers resident permit prices for nonresident landowners. This bill would allow nonresidents an advantage that their home states do not provide to Missourians.

Testifying against the bill were Conservation Federation of Missouri and Mark Zurbrick.

OTHERS: The department's regulations were updated in 2008 to remove the nonresident landowner permits; however, when looking at regulatory changes, the department heard many public comments that nonresident landowners should not receive reduced or free permits because the nonresident permits are some of the lowest in the nation.

Testifying on the bill was Missouri Department of Conservation.