

## **HB 3167 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources**

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**Prepared By:** Stuty Maskey, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 4/6

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Repeals sunset of predator damage control district program. Changes requirements for petition for formation of predator damage control district (District) and requires at least 10 eligible petitioners who cumulatively own at least 10,000 acres of eligible land within the boundaries of the proposed District initiate to form the District. Requires the proposed boundaries be identified by tax lots and specifies it may be noncontiguous. Requires county assessor to verify the signatures of the eligible petitioners appearing in the petition. Amends provisions for advisory board to request the governing body of the county to annex eligible land to or withdraw eligible land at any time after the formation of a predator damage control district. Revises the annual charge to landowners and authorizes county to charge annually \$2 per acre for tax lot of 10 or more acres or \$50 flat rate for tax lots with less than 10 acres to prevent, reduce, and mitigate damage from predatory animals. Specifies that the actual cost to the county does not include indirect or pooled job costs assessed to the county for federal wildlife services. Authorizes the governing body of the county to charge an incorporated city for costs of preventing, reducing and mitigating damage to the property from predatory animals, with the consent of the governing body of the city . Authorizes county to directly bill landowners for annual charges. Takes effect on 91<sup>st</sup> day following adjournment sine die.

*REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued*

*FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued*

*No Subsequent Referral*

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

#### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

In some parts of the country, Predator Damage Control Districts (District) have been established by government entities to address farmer and rancher concerns for economic losses resulting from predation.

House Bill 3167 would repeal the sunset of the predator damage control district program, change requirements for petition for formation of District and require at least 10 eligible petitioners who cumulatively own at least 10,000 acres of eligible land within the boundaries of the proposed District initiate to form the District. It would increase annual charges that county charge to landowners to prevent, reduce, and mitigate damage from predatory animals, and authorize county to directly bill landowners for annual charges.