

To The House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

Regarding House Bill 2844 and its impedance to farmers and private landowners to control problem beaver.

The ability to control problem beaver on private land should be preserved.

A beaver has the ability to do tens of thousands of dollars of damage in a single evening, especially to farmers growing filbert or hazelnut trees. Landowners need to have the ability to protect their investments without being encumbered by a complicated bureaucratic system that involves requisitioning permits and waiting for government agents to try to relocate beavers.

The beaver may be portrayed as cute civil engineer of the animal world. But in reality they can be extremely destructive, clearing acres of tree farms and flooding roads and farmland. Landowners need to have tools to deal with these problem animals quickly. Waiting for government aid while paperwork is processed or being left on a wait list due to a backlog is not an reasonable means to alleviate the damage.

If a raccoon were living in your attic you would not want to have to file a form with the government and wait until such a time as they determined it was an issue to get the problem resolved. It is no different for landowners and farmers that have problem beaver.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns on HB 2844