

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA -- 1997 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 489

Requesting the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to study options for controlling the deer population in urban and suburban areas.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 30, 1997

Agreed to by the Senate, February 19, 1997

WHEREAS, Virginia's deer population is high and will continue to increase at a high rate; and
WHEREAS, the explosion of the deer population is not statewide but rather appears to be occurring in selective areas; and

WHEREAS, as people move further from the central cities, less habitat is available for the deer population; and

WHEREAS, the presence of deer in the more populated areas of the state has resulted in damage to landscapes, crops and other property; and

WHEREAS, the presence of deer in the more populated areas of the state has also resulted in an increasing number of deer/vehicle collisions, and greater threats to public health; and

WHEREAS, hunting has been the traditional method for controlling the deer population; and

WHEREAS, other options are available, such as birth control, trap and transfer, managed hunts, and out-of-season kill permits, which may enable deer and people to co-exist; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries be requested to study options for controlling the deer population in urban and suburban areas. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Department, upon request.

The Department shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1998 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

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