

SENATE BILL REPORT

SSB 6231

AS PASSED SENATE, FEBRUARY 9, 1994

Brief Description: Permitting control of life-threatening animals.

SPONSORS: Senate Committee on Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Senators Hargrove, Owen, M. Rasmussen and Morton)

SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Majority Report: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6231 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Owen, Chairman; Hargrove, Vice Chairman; Amondson, Erwin, Franklin, Haugen, Oke, Sellar, L. Smith and Spanel.

Staff: Ross Antipa (786-7413)

Hearing Dates: January 28, 1994; January 31, 1994

BACKGROUND:

There is currently no statutory authority which allows a person to kill an animal which poses an imminent threat to human life.

SUMMARY:

A person may kill a bear or cougar that is reasonably perceived to be an unavoidable and immediate threat to human life.

Appropriation: none

Revenue: none

Fiscal Note: none requested

TESTIMONY FOR:

Recent cases of human injury due to cougar and bear attacks support passage of the legislation.

TESTIMONY AGAINST: None

TESTIFIED: PRO: Louie Muller, LCFFA; Anthony de la Torre, WA Dept. of Wildlife; Brandt Castleton