

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 135 – SB 205

March 3, 2015

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Specifies that the killing or injuring of a threatening wild animal is justified when a person reasonably believes the action is necessary to protect the person or any other individual against imminent attack which is likely to result in serious bodily injury or death, and when the action is necessary to protect the person's property from imminent harm. Requires the person to report within 12 hours any such killing or injuring of a threatening wild animal to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA). Prohibits the moving of any such animal without authorization of the TWRA. Creates a Class C misdemeanor for failure to report such incidence.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (003713):** Deletes definition of "property"; changes the definition of "wild animal"; establishes a defense of self-defense for persons charged with taking, attempting to take, or harming a wild animal, when a wild animal has behaved in certain threatening manners; establishes the instances for when self-defense is an allowable defense.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

**Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**

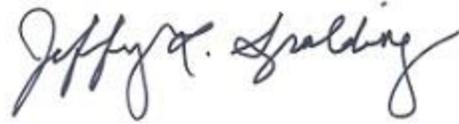
Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Based on information provided by the TWRA, any impact associated with persons reporting wildlife incidences to the agency would be accommodated within existing resources without an increased appropriation or a reduced reversion.
- There will not be a sufficient number of Class C misdemeanor prosecutions for state or local government to experience any significant increase in revenue or expenditures.
- Based on the information received by TWRA, it is estimated that the fiscal impact estimated for the original bill will not change as a result of the amendment.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

**HB 135 – SB 205**



Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

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