

HB 1096 -- SLAUGHTER OF CAPTIVE CERVIDS

SPONSOR: Houghton

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Conservation and Natural Resources by a vote of 9 to 3. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on Agriculture by a vote of 8 to 2.

This bill allows any commercial slaughter plant or meat processor that has been inspected by the Missouri Department of Agriculture or the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to slaughter and process captive cervids for human consumption if the captive cervids are from a herd that participates in a USDA herd certification program.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill would allow deer breeders to slaughter and process deer that were barren. The meat could be used by the breeder or donated to a food pantry. Currently, breeders must either keep the deer and incur the costs associated with the deer or compost the carcass.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Houghton; Charles James; Missouri Federation of Animal Owners; and Kevin Grace.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.