

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 468

Introduced by Erdman, 47; Friesen, 34; Lowe, 37; Murman, 38.

Read first time January 15, 2021

Committee: Natural Resources

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Game Law; to amend section 37-201,
2 Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2020; to provide
3 compensation to landowners for damages to property caused by game
4 animals and game birds as prescribed; to provide duties for the Game
5 and Parks Commission; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the
6 original section.

7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 37-201, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2 2020, is amended to read:

3 37-201 Sections 37-201 to 37-811 and 37-1501 to 37-1510 and section
4 2 of this act and the State Park System Construction Alternatives Act
5 shall be known and may be cited as the Game Law.

6 Sec. 2. (1) Consistent with Article I, section 21, of the
7 Constitution of Nebraska, the Game and Parks Commission shall compensate
8 a landowner for any damages to the landowner's property caused by game
9 animals or game birds of the state. For purposes of this section,
10 property includes, but is not necessarily limited to, farm crops,
11 livestock, structures, and fencing.

12 (2) The commission shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations
13 for reimbursing landowners for damages caused by wildlife. Such rules and
14 regulations shall include provisions for a third-party certified
15 appraiser for farm crops, a third-party certified inspector for
16 livestock, and a third-party certified real estate appraiser. Any such
17 appraiser or inspector must be approved by both the commission and the
18 landowner. A landowner claiming damages described in subsection (1) of
19 this section may file a claim for compensation with the commission on a
20 form prescribed by the commission. The form shall be made available to
21 the public on the commission's web site.

22 (3) The commission shall pay compensation claims filed pursuant to
23 this section on an ongoing basis.

24 Sec. 3. Original section 37-201, Revised Statutes Cumulative
25 Supplement, 2020, is repealed.