

---

## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

---

HB 1258 Original

2026 Regular Session

Geymann

**Abstract:** Provides for the disposition of sick, injured or orphaned wildlife species seized as a result of unlawful possession, establishes a preference for release, rehabilitation, and placement with a wildlife rehabilitator or licensed facility, and provides for euthanasia only when no feasible alternatives exist.

Proposed law provides for wildlife held in violation of present law that is seized by the dept. and specifies that such wildlife will be referred to as "contraband wildlife".

Proposed law provides for contraband wildlife to be evaluated by dept. field staff or by a veterinarian to determine its disposition.

Proposed law provides for the disposition order of preference to include release when possible, rehabilitation when possible with a permitted rehabilitator, placement at an appropriate facility when possible, and euthanasia when no other possibilities exist.

Proposed law provides for the enumerated conditions which must be met for euthanasia.

Proposed law requires that euthanasia be performed in accordance with the most current accepted guidelines by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

(Adds R.S. 56:126.1)