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## DIGEST

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Thibaut

HB No. 294

**Abstract:** Authorizes the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to promulgate rules and regulations authorizing the trapping of feral hogs any time of year and remove firearm limitation on taking outlaw quadrupeds, nutria, and beaver on private property.

Present law authorizes the taking of outlaw quadrupeds, nutria, or beaver any time of year during daytime hours without limit, except for taking by means of trapping during closed season for nongame quadrupeds. Such trapping may be used under a special permit issued by the department.

Proposed law retains present law except authorizes the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to promulgate rules and regulations authorizing the trapping of feral hogs any time of year without a special permit.

Present law authorizes on private property, the landowner, or his lessee or agent with written permission and the landowner's contact information in his possession, may take outlaw quadrupeds, nutria, or beaver during nighttime hours between the last day of Feb. and Aug. 31 of that same year. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law limits the method of such taking shall be limited to a shotgun not larger than a No. 10 gauge fired with buckshot or smaller or a standard .22 caliber rimfire firearm.

Proposed law removes the limitation on the type of firearm used.

Present law provides such taking may be with or without the aid of artificial light, infrared or laser sighting devices, or night vision devices. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that resident game birds, outlaw birds, game quadrupeds, and outlaw quadrupeds may be taken only with a bow and arrow, crossbow, or rifle, or a handgun, or falconry, or a shotgun not larger than a No. 10 gauge fired from the shoulder without a rest, except as otherwise provided in present law. Proposed law retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 56:116.1(D)(1))