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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by McHenry Lee.

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## DIGEST

Ward (SB 250)

Present law provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission through its secretary may promulgate rules and regulations to control the importation and private possession of big exotic cats. Requires that the rules provide exceptions for big cats traditionally kept by colleges and universities, animal sanctuaries, zoos, wildlife research centers, and scientific organizations and for owners who can prove previous ownership.

Proposed law adds an additional exception for owners who hold a USDA class C exhibitor's license.

Proposed law provides that a previous owner will include persons who obtained their animal by lawful means prior to August 1, 2006.

Proposed law provides for retroactive application.

Effective August 1, 2014.

(Amends R.S. 56:6(31))