

1 HB420
2 157795-1
3 By Representative Fincher
4 RFD: Agriculture and Forestry
5 First Read: 06-FEB-14

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the Commissioner of
9 Conservation and Natural Resources may issue an
10 annual permit to a person at a cost of \$25
11 authorizing the person to possess wildlife for
12 public exhibition purposes.

13 This bill would allow the commissioner to
14 also establish reasonable and necessary fees in
15 amounts sufficient to cover the costs of
16 administering and enforcing the wildlife public
17 exhibition regulations.

18 This bill would also delete the provision
19 that the wildlife public exhibition regulations do
20 not apply to privately owned traveling zoos and
21 would provide that the regulations do not apply to
22 four-year universities, provided that the
23 guidelines of the institutions' Institutional
24 Animal Care and Use Committee are followed.

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26 A BILL
27 TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

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3 To amend Sections 9-11-324 and 9-11-328, Code of
4 Alabama 1975, to allow the Commissioner of Conservation and
5 Natural Resources to establish reasonable and necessary fees
6 in certain amounts for the administration and enforcement of
7 the wildlife public exhibition regulations; to delete the
8 provision that the wildlife public exhibition regulations do
9 not apply to privately owned traveling zoos; and to exempt
10 four-year colleges in compliance with certain guidelines from
11 the wildlife public exhibition regulations.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

13 Section 1. Sections 9-11-324 and 9-11-328, Code of
14 Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

15 "§9-11-324.

16 "(a) The Commissioner of Conservation and Natural
17 Resources, upon application of any person qualified by
18 education or experience in the care and treatment of wildlife,
19 may issue an annual permit to ~~such~~ the person ~~at a cost of~~
20 ~~\$25.00,~~ under ~~such~~ terms and conditions as he or she
21 prescribes, to possess wildlife for public exhibition purposes
22 in accordance with this article and regulations adopted
23 pursuant thereto and shall establish reasonable and necessary
24 fees in amounts sufficient to cover the costs of administering
25 and enforcing this article.

26 "(b) Each application for a permit shall include:

1 "(1) A statement regarding ~~such~~ the person's
2 education or experience in the care and treatment of wildlife
3 and that of any individual employed by ~~such~~ the person for
4 such purpose;

5 "(2) A description of the facilities used to keep
6 the wildlife in captivity;

7 "(3) A statement of the number of species or
8 subspecies of wildlife to be covered by the permit and a
9 statement relative to where or from whom ~~such~~ the wildlife was
10 acquired;

11 "(4) A signed agreement that recommended standards
12 for wildlife exhibitors as promulgated by the Commissioner of
13 Conservation and Natural Resources will be adopted and adhered
14 to; and

15 "(5) ~~Such~~ Any other information ~~as~~ the Commissioner
16 of Conservation and Natural Resources deems appropriate.

17 "§9-11-328.

18 "The provisions of the article shall not apply to
19 any municipal, county, or state ~~or other publicly~~ owned zoo ~~or~~
20 ~~wildlife exhibit, privately owned traveling zoo~~ or any
21 circus, or pet shop, or four-year university or its
22 affiliates, provided that the guidelines of the institution's
23 Institutional Animal and Use Committee are followed."

24 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
25 first day of the third month following its passage and
26 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.