

Union Calendar No. 679

118TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 1437

[Report No. 118–832]

To authorize livestock producers and their employees to take black vultures in order to prevent death, injury, or destruction to livestock, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 8, 2023

Mr. ROSE (for himself and Mr. SOTO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

DECEMBER 10, 2024

Additional sponsors: Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. BARR, Mr. COMER, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. HERN, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. PERRY, Mrs. BICE, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Ms. MACE, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. OGLES, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. PENCE, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. LUCAS, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. BOST, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. BURCHETT, and Mr. GRAVES of Missouri

DECEMBER 10, 2024

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 8, 2023]

A BILL

To authorize livestock producers and their employees to take black vultures in order to prevent death, injury, or destruction to livestock, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Black Vulture Relief*
5 *Act of 2024”.*

6 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION FOR LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS AND**
7 **THEIR EMPLOYEES TO TAKE CERTAIN BLACK**
8 **VULTURES.**

9 (a) *DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

10 (1) *BLACK VULTURE.—The term “black vulture”*
11 *means a bird of the species* *Coragyps atratus.*

12 (2) *COVERED PERSON.—The term “covered per-*
13 *son” means—*

14 (A) *a livestock producer; or*

15 (B) *an employee of a livestock producer*
16 *when the employee is actively engaged in live-*
17 *stock production.*

18 (3) *DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means the*
19 *Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Serv-*
20 *ice.*

21 (4) *LIVESTOCK.—The term “livestock” has the*
22 *meaning given the term in section 602 of the Emer-*
23 *gency Livestock Feed Assistance Act of 1988 (7 U.S.C.*
24 *1471).*

1 (5) *LIVESTOCK PRODUCER*.—The term “livestock
2 producer” has the meaning given the term in section
3 602 of the *Emergency Livestock Feed Assistance Act*
4 of 1988 (7 U.S.C. 1471).

5 (6) *TAKE*.—The term “take” means—

6 (A) to capture, kill, or disperse a black vul-
7 ture; or

8 (B) to transport a black vulture carcass.

9 (b) *AUTHORIZATION*.—

10 (1) *IN GENERAL*.—Subject to paragraph (2), not-
11 withstanding the *Migratory Bird Treaty Act* (16
12 U.S.C. 703 *et seq.*), a covered person may—

13 (A) take or attempt to take a black vulture
14 that is causing, or that the covered person has a
15 reasonable belief will cause, death, injury, or de-
16 struction to livestock; or

17 (B) in the course of taking or attempting to
18 take a black vulture described in subparagraph
19 (A), cause injury to the black vulture.

20 (2) *PROHIBITION*.—A covered person may not
21 take or attempt to take a black vulture through the
22 use of poison.

23 (c) *REPORTS*.—

24 (1) *IN GENERAL*.—Not later than January 31 of
25 each year, a covered person that takes a black vulture

1 *in accordance with subsection (b) in the preceding 12-*
2 *month period shall complete and submit to the appro-*
3 *prate United States Fish and Wildlife Service Re-*
4 *gional Office (as determined by the geographic juris-*
5 *dictions described in section 2.2 of title 50, Code of*
6 *Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation)) an*
7 *annual report using the form developed by the Direc-*
8 *tor under subsection (d).*

9 (2) *CLARIFICATION.—A covered person shall not*
10 *be required to submit a report under paragraph (1)*
11 *until after the date on which the Director develops*
12 *and makes available the reporting form under sub-*
13 *section (d).*

14 (d) *REPORTING FORMS.—*

15 (1) *IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), not*
16 *later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this*
17 *Act, the Director shall develop and make available on*
18 *the website of the United States Fish and Wildlife*
19 *Service a reporting form the Director determines ap-*
20 *propriate for the purposes of accepting reports under*
21 *subsection (c).*

22 (2) *FORMAT.—The form developed and made*
23 *available under paragraph (1) may not be more oner-*
24 *ous to complete than similar forms required for per-*
25 *mitted take under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16*

1 *U.S.C. 703 et seq.) as of the date of enactment of this*
2 *Act.*

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