

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 248

To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to exclude certain populations of the lesser prairie chicken from the authority of such Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 10, 2023

Mr. ESTES introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to exclude certain populations of the lesser prairie chicken from the authority of such Act, 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 “Promoting Local Man-
5 agement of the Lesser Prairie Chicken Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN POPULATIONS OF LESSER**
2 **PRAIRIE CHICKEN UNDER ENDANGERED SPE-**
3 **CIES ACT OF 1973.**

4 (a) EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN POPULATIONS OF LESS-
5 ER PRAIRIE CHICKEN.—Section 4(a) of the Endangered
6 Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533(a)) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “The Sec-
8 retary shall by regulation” and inserting “Except as
9 provided in paragraph (4), the Secretary shall by
10 regulation”; and

11 (2) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(4) APPLICABILITY TO LESSER PRAIRIE CHICK-
13 EN.—The Secretary may not make a determination under
14 this subsection that any population of the lesser prairie
15 chicken (*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*) in Kansas, Okla-
16 homa, Texas, Colorado, or New Mexico is threatened or
17 endangered.”.

18 (b) DELISTING OF CERTAIN POPULATIONS OF LESS-
19 ER PRAIRIE CHICKEN.—Not later than 60 days after the
20 date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary of the
21 Interior shall remove each population of the lesser prairie
22 chicken (*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*) in Kansas, Okla-
23 homa, Texas, Colorado, and New Mexico from the lists
24 of threatened species and endangered species that are pub-

- 1 lished pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973
- 2 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

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