

By Senator Artiles

40-01665A-17

20171328__

Senate Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States, President of the United States, and National Park Service, urging that the National Park Service be directed to allow hunting of exotic invasive species in national parks and to research the effectiveness of hunting and other methods in eliminating or reducing exotic invasive species on national park lands.

WHEREAS, South Florida contains more exotic invasive animal and plant species than any other area in the United States, and

WHEREAS, these exotic invasive species are reproducing at uncontrolled rates because this state lacks the natural predators that would limit the ability of these exotic invasive species to multiply uncontrollably, and

WHEREAS, the proliferation of these exotic invasive species in South Florida threatens the Florida Everglades and the native species that live there, and

WHEREAS, many national parks throughout the United States face similar threats to their ecosystems from exotic invasive species, and

WHEREAS, allowing the hunting of exotic invasive species would be an effective measure to reduce these threats, and

WHEREAS, additional research into hunting and other methods of exotic invasive species control may reveal additional or more effective methods to control or eliminate such species, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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31 That the National Park Service be directed to allow the
32 hunting of exotic invasive species on national park lands and to
33 issue permits to individuals who wish to hunt on those lands
34 and, further, that the National Park Service be directed to
35 research the effectiveness of hunting and other methods in
36 eliminating or reducing exotic invasive species on national park
37 lands.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State is
39 directed to dispatch copies of this memorial to the President of
40 the United States, to the President of the United States Senate,
41 to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, to
42 the Director of the National Park Service, and to each member of
43 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.