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1	A bill to be entitled			
2	An act relating to nonnative animals; creating s.			
3	379.2311, F.S.; defining the term "priority invasive			
4	species"; providing legislative findings; requiring			
5	the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to			
6	establish a pilot program for the eradication of			
7	priority invasive species; providing the goal of the			
8	pilot program; authorizing the commission to enter			
9	into specified contracts; specifying parameters for			
10	the implementation of the pilot program; specifying			
11	procedures for the capture and disposal of animals			
12	that belong to priority invasive species; requiring			
13	the commission to submit a report to the Governor and			
14	the Legislature by a specified date; providing an			
15	effective date.			
16				
17	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:			
18				
19	Section 1. Section 379.2311, Florida Statutes, is created			
20	to read:			
21	379.2311 Nonnative animal management			
22	(1) As used in this section, the term "priority invasive			
23	species" means the following:			
24	(a) Lizards of the genus <i>Tupinambis</i> , also known as tegu			
25	lizards;			

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26 (b) Species identified in s. 379.372(2)(a); 27 Pterois volitans, also known as red lionfish; and (C) 28 Pterois miles, also known as the common lionfish or (d) 29 devil firefish. 30 (2) The Legislature finds that priority invasive species 31 continue to expand their range and to decimate the fauna and 32 flora of the Everglades and other natural areas and ecosystems 33 in the southern and central parts of the state at an accelerating rate. Therefore, the commission shall establish a 34 pilot program to mitigate the impact of priority invasive 35 36 species on the public lands or waters of this state. 37 The goal of the pilot program is to examine the (a) 38 benefits of using strategically deployed, trained private 39 contractors to slow the advance of priority invasive species, 40 contain their populations, and eradicate them from this state. 41 (b) In implementing the pilot program, the commission may 42 enter into contracts in accordance with chapter 287 with 43 entities or individuals to capture or destroy animals belonging 44 to priority invasive species found on public lands or in the 45 waters of this state. Any private contracted work to be 46 performed on public land or in the waters of the state not owned 47 or managed by the commission must have the consent of the owner. 48 (C) The commission shall ensure that all captures and 49 disposals of animals that belong to these priority invasive 50 species are documented and photographed and that the geographic

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51	location of the take is recorded for research purposes. The					
52	commission shall direct the disposal of all animals captured and					
53	not destroyed in removal efforts.					
54	(d) The commission shall submit a report of findings and					
55	5 recommendations regarding its implementation of the pilot					
56	6 program to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the					
57	Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1, 2021.					
58	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.					

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