

*Testimony Before the Environment Committee
Opposition to HB 6305
March 22 , 2013*

Why exactly should private landowners that abut wildlife preserves be forced to add insult to injury by not being able to manage a pest problem on their own property? This is perhaps the most egregious proposal that anyone could suggest. It is bad enough that wildlife preserves have become safe havens for an overabundant deer population that is putting our children at risk of tick related diseases. To then effectively expand the size of a preserve by including abutting property defies all logic. If this is past the next step will be to somehow make properties that abut properties that abut preserves no hunting zones as well. As this process progresses, eventually the entire state will be no hunting zones. More rational minds must prevail. People need more control over their personal lives and personal property not less. Laws of this nature often have unintended consequences that create significant problems down the road. The government protection of deer is a case in point. Their protection of deer has resulted in a health crisis that is causing untold suffering. While the solution is quite simple, once a system of regulations and restrictions are in place it is virtually impossible to reverse course. HB 6305 must not see the light of day.

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