

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 128

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 25, 2018

Sponsored by:

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Urges DEP to replace current lethal population control methods for foxes on Brigantine Island with non-lethal deterrence methods.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



SCR128 GREENSTEIN

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1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** opposing the Department of
2 Environmental Protection for its current use of lethal methods to
3 control the Brigantine Island fox population and urging the
4 department to replace its methods with non-lethal deterrence
5 methods.

7 **WHEREAS**, Red foxes thrive throughout the State and are iconic
8 wildlife to many residents of the State; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Red foxes have enjoyed particular appreciation on the
10 island of Brigantine where the fox has been the island's unofficial
11 mascot; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Scientific studies have determined that the mass or
13 indiscriminate killing of native carnivores, such as through culling,
14 bounties, or wildlife killing contests, is inhumane and is not an
15 effective means of mitigating conflicts with imperiled wildlife
16 species, pets, livestock, or humans; and

17 **WHEREAS**, The Department of Environmental Protection has been
18 trapping foxes by using snares or shooting the foxes in an attempt
19 to protect the nests of endangered birds such as the piping plover
20 and the populations of other migrating birds such as the red knot;
21 and

22 **WHEREAS**, Disturbing video of piles of dead foxes found on the beach
23 and in sand dunes has raised a public outcry against this policy; and

24 **WHEREAS,** The snare traps used have long been considered inhumane;
25 and

26 **WHEREAS**, It is contradictory to the mission of the Department of
27 Environmental Protection to unnecessarily and cruelly decimate one
28 population of wildlife for the sake of another when other methods
29 of protection exist, now, therefore,

31 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*
32 *Jersey (the Senate concurring):*

1. The Department of Environmental Protection is urged to end its current policies for controlling the Brigantine fox population, and replace its lethal methods with non-lethal deterrence methods.

2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the Secretary of the Senate to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and to the governing body of the City of Brigantine in Atlantic County.

STATEMENT

47 This resolution opposes the Department of Environmental
48 Protection (DEP) for its current methods of controlling the

1 Brigantine fox population and urges the department to replace its
2 lethal methods with non-lethal deterrence methods. Foxes have
3 enjoyed particular appreciation on the island of Brigantine where
4 the fox has been the island's unofficial mascot, and disturbing video
5 of piles of dead foxes on the beach and in sand dunes has recently
6 raised a public outcry against the DEP's current methods of
7 population control.