

CS for SB 318 & CS for SB 572 — Wildlife Regulation

by the General Government Appropriations Committee; Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee; and Senators Sobel, Constantine, and Lynn

The bill combines two bills related to reptiles of concern and captive wildlife. The bill prohibits any person from possessing, importing, selling, trading, or breeding certain reptile species, including species designated as a reptile of concern by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). The bill bans internet sales of wildlife, adds civil penalties to persons who are convicted of violations related to nonnative and captive wildlife, clarifies that bonds are required for the possession of certain wildlife, clarifies terms and specific penalty language for captive wildlife, and provides a date certain for the evaluation of a potential ban on reptiles of concern.

The bill provides that persons licensed to possess a reptile of concern as of July 1, 2010, or by October 1, 2010, for anacondas other than green anacondas, may continue to possess the individual reptile for the remainder of that reptile's life. The FWC is required to submit annual reports listing each species on its list of reptiles of concern, conditional species, and prohibited species. The FWC is also directed to evaluate adding species, including iguanas, to its reptile of concern list. Finally, the bill provides consistency in nomenclature related to native and nonnative wildlife.

These provisions became law on July 1, 2010, unless otherwise specified.

Vote: Senate 35-0; House 116-0