



QUALITY DEER MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

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Date: 12 March 2019
To: Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee
From: Kip Adams, Director of Conservation
Re: Senate Bill 105

On behalf of the Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA) I am writing to oppose Senate Bill 105 which would enable and fund a trap-neuter-release (TNR) practice for feral cats. The QDMA is a national nonprofit wildlife conservation organization dedicated to ensuring the future of white-tailed deer, wildlife habitat and our hunting heritage. The QDMA has over 60,000 members nationwide, and our membership includes hunters, landowners and natural resource professionals.

Feral cats are one of the most harmful invasive species as they've contributed to the extinction of 63 species in the wild worldwide. According to the American Bird Conservancy (ABC), cats kill an estimated 2.4 billion birds annually in the United States, and are the leading source of human-caused bird mortality in the United States and Canada. The ABC also documents that feral and free-roaming cats are a public health risk, as cats are the top source of rabies among domestic animals in the United States, and cats disproportionately expose people to this fatal disease.

The practice of TNR will contribute to the ongoing nuisance issue. As such, we encourage you to oppose Senate Bill 105. Thank you for your time and your commitment to South Carolina's natural resources.

Respectfully,

Kip Adams
Director of Conservation