**CBS 02 01-30-21 HUNTING BIGFOOT**

THERE COULD BE A NEW FAVORITE TIME OF YEAR FOR AVID HUNTERS, BIGFOOT SEASON. I’M BRIAN BANMILLER ON BUSINESS.

OKLAHOMA REPUBLICAN HOUSE MEMBER JUSTIN HUMPHREY HAS INTRODUCED A BILL THAT WOULD CREATE A BIGFOOT HUNTING SEASON. HUMPHREY REPRESENTS THE SOUTHEAST PART OF THE STATE WHERE A BIGFOOT FESTIVAL IS HELD EACH YEAR AND ALLEGED SIGHTINGS ARE FREQUENTLY REPORTED. HE SAYS ISSUING A STATE HUNTING LICENSE AND TAG COULD HELP BOOST TOURISIM AND DRAW MORE PEOPLE TO THE STATE. BUT THE BILL ONLY ALLOWS FOR TRAPPING BIGFOOT SO LEAVE YOUR LETHAL WEAPONS AT HOME. HE ALSO HOPES TO SECURE TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AS A BOUNTY. BUT NOT EVERYONE IS ON BOARD WITH THE PLAN. THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SAYS IT USES SCIENCE-DRIVEN RESEARCH AND DOES NOT BELIEVE IN THE EXISTENCE OF BIGFOOT. MEANWHILE, THE MID-AMERICA BIGFOOT RESEARCH CENTER IS A BIG BELIEVER BUT THINKS A BUNCH OF HUNTERS COMING TO THE AREA WILL JUST RUIN WHAT THEY ARE TRYING TO DO, FIND AND STUDY THE CREATURE. BUT FOR NOW, THE IDEA IS GAINING STEAM, BELIEVERS OR OTHERWISE ARE INTRIGUED BY THE IDEA. NO RESPONSE FROM BIGFOOT. YET. BRIAN BANMILLER, CBS NEWS.