

House Bill 1058 (FLOOR SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representative Lane of the 146th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to game and fish, so
2 as to provide for the release of quail for purposes of dog training; to provide for the use of
3 a shotgun with ammunition for dog training; to provide for the use of pen raised quail for
4 dog training; to provide that it shall be unlawful to hunt pen raised game birds on a hunting
5 preserve during certain times; to provide that it shall be lawful to hunt pen raised game birds
6 with a nonresident shooting preserve license; to provide that it shall be lawful to hunt pen
7 raised game birds without a hunting license on a shooting preserve possessing a shooting
8 preserve license; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

10 Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to game and fish, is amended by
11 striking in its entirety Code Section 27-2-14, relating to the liberation of wildlife and
12 domestic fish, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

13 "27-2-14.

14 It shall be unlawful for any person to liberate any wildlife within this state or to liberate
15 domestic fish except into private ponds except under permit from the department; provided,
16 however, that pen raised quail may be released for purposes of training pointing, flushing,
17 and retrieving dogs."
18

SECTION 2.

19 Said title is further amended by striking in their entirety subsections (a) and (d) of Code
20 Section 27-3-16, relating to hunting with dogs generally and the training of dogs, and
21 inserting in lieu thereof, respectively, the following:

22 "(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to have in his or her possession any firearms, axes,
23 climbers, or other equipment for taking game while training hunting dogs, provided that
24 handguns with blank ammunition or shot cartridges may be used for training hunting dogs,
25

1 and shotguns with number six shot or smaller shot may be used while training pointing,
 2 flushing, and retrieving dogs using pen raised quail and pigeons."

3 "(d) It shall be unlawful to take game by any means while training hunting dogs, except
 4 during the lawful open seasons for such game; provided, however, that pen raised quail
 5 may be taken at any time for training hunting dogs if the dog trainer maintains proof of
 6 purchase of pen raised quail."

7 SECTION 3.

8 Said title is further amended by striking in its entirety subsection (a) of Code Section
 9 27-3-110, relating to shooting preserve license requirements, effective dates, contents of
 10 application, and conditions for issuance, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

11 "(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to release pen raised game birds, except as provided
 12 in Code Section 27-2-14, unless the person has first obtained a commercial, blanket
 13 commercial, or private shooting preserve license as provided in Code Section 27-2-23.
 14 Such license shall be effective from April 1 through March 31 of the following year."

15 SECTION 4.

16 Said title is further amended by striking in its entirety Code Section 27-3-112, relating to
 17 legal hunting dates and hours and bag limits, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

18 "27-3-112.

19 It shall be unlawful to hunt pen raised game birds on a shooting preserve except between
 20 October 1 and March 31 of the following year, and except from one-half hour before
 21 sunrise to sunset. It shall also be unlawful to exceed the daily or season bag limits
 22 prescribed by law or regulation for any game bird or game animal, provided that there shall
 23 be no bag limits for pen raised birds. It shall also be unlawful to hunt on a shooting
 24 preserve any game bird or game animal except during the open season for such bird or
 25 animal as prescribed by law or regulation; provided, however, that it shall be lawful to hunt
 26 bobwhite quail between October 1 and March 31 of the following year; provided, further,
 27 that it shall be lawful to hunt any other pen raised game bird between October 1 and March
 28 31 of the following year when prior approval has been obtained from the department."

29 SECTION 5.

30 Said title is further amended by striking in its entirety Code Section 27-3-114, relating to
 31 laws, regulations, and hunting license requirements applicable to shooting preserves, and
 32 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

33 "27-3-114.

34 Except as otherwise specifically provided, all wildlife laws and regulations shall be in full
 35 force and effect on shooting preserves licensed pursuant to this article. Specifically,

1 hunting licenses shall be required of all persons hunting on such preserves; provided,
2 however, that it shall be lawful for any nonresident to hunt pen raised game birds on such
3 a preserve with a nonresident shooting preserve hunting license as provided in Code
4 Section 27-2-23; provided, further, that it shall be lawful for any person to hunt pen raised
5 game birds without a hunting license on a shooting preserve which possesses a valid
6 blanket shooting preserve license as provided in Code Section 27-2-23."

7 **SECTION 6.**

8 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.