

The House Committee on Game, Fish and Parks offers the following substitute to HB 1158:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Code Section 27-3-15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to seasons and bag limits, promulgation of rules and regulations by Board of Natural Resources, possession of more than bag limit, and reporting number of deer killed, so as to change the hunting season for bear; to change the season and bag limits for deer; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Code Section 27-3-15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to seasons and bag limits, promulgation of rules and regulations by Board of Natural Resources, possession of more than bag limit, and reporting number of deer killed, is amended by striking in their entirety subsections (a) and (b) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"(a) It shall be unlawful to hunt the following game species at any time during the periods set forth below:

Game Species

Closed Season

(1) Quail

March 16 — Oct. 31

(2) Grouse

March 1 — Oct. 14

(3) Turkey

(A) Gobblers

May 22 — March 14

(B) Hens

All year

(4) Deer

Jan. 16 — ~~Sept. 14~~ Sept. 7

(5) Bobcat

March 1 — Oct. 14

- 1

(6) Opossum

March 1 — Oct. 14, for that area north of and including Haralson, Paulding, Bartow, Cherokee, Forsyth, Hall, Banks, Franklin, and Hart counties
- 2

(7) Rabbit

March 1 — Oct. 31
- 3

(8) Raccoon

March 1 — Oct. 14, for that area north of and including Carroll, Fulton, Gwinnett, Barrow, Clarke, Oglethorpe, Taliaferro, Wilkes, and Lincoln counties
- 4

(9) Squirrel

March 1 — August 14
- 5

(10) Bear

Jan. 16 — Sept. ~~14~~ 7
- 6

(11) Sea turtles and their eggs

All year
- 7

(12) Cougar (Felis concolor)

All year
- 8

(13) Alligators

Nov. 1 — March 31
- 9

(14) Migratory game birds

March 11 — August 31

(b) It shall be unlawful to hunt the following game species at any time during the period set forth below, except that it shall not be unlawful to hunt the following game species during such periods or portions thereof, and in such number not to exceed the following numbers, as may be designated by the board as open seasons and bag limits for such species:

	<u>Game Species</u>	<u>Maximum Open Season</u>	<u>Maximum Bag Limits</u>	
			<u>Daily</u>	<u>Season</u>
16	(1) Quail	Nov. 1 — March 15	12	No limit
17	(2) Grouse	Oct. 15 — Feb. 29	3	No limit
18	(3) Turkey	March 15 — May 21	3	3
19	gobblers			
20	(4) Deer	Sept. 15 <u>8</u> — Jan. 15	8	8

The daily limit shall be ten antlerless deer and two antlered bucks. The season limit shall be ten antlerless deer and two antlered bucks. Only one antlered buck may have less than four points one inch or longer on one side of the antlers.

Up to two deer per managed hunt may be allowed on wildlife management areas without complying with the state-wide bag limit

1	(5) Bobcat	Oct. 15 — Feb. 29	No limit	No limit
2	(6) Opossum	(A) Oct. 15 — Feb. 29, for that area north of and including Haralson, Paulding, Bartow, Cherokee, Forsyth, Hall, Banks, Franklin, and Hart counties; and (B) Jan. 1 — Dec. 31 for the remainder of the state	No limit	No limit
3	(7) Rabbit	Nov. 1 — Feb. 29	12	No limit
4	(8) Raccoon	(A) Oct. 15 — Feb. 29, for that area north of and including Carroll, Fulton, Gwinnett, Barrow, Clarke, Oglethorpe, Taliaferro, Wilkes, and Lincoln counties; and (B) Jan. 1 — Dec. 31 for the remainder of the state	No limit	No limit
5	(9) Squirrel	Aug. 15 — Feb. 29	12	No limit

1	(10) Fox	Jan. 1 — Dec. 31	No limit	No limit
2	(11) Migratory	Sept. 1 — March 10	Subject to limits set by the federal government and adopted by the board	
3	game birds			
4	(12) Bear	Sept. 15 <u>8</u> — Jan. 15	1	1
5	(13) Alligators	April 1 — Oct. 31	Subject to limits adopted by the board"	

SECTION 2.

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