

## House Bill 1158 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Lane of the 146<sup>th</sup>, Stokes of the 92<sup>nd</sup>, Keen of the 174<sup>th</sup>, Porter of the 143<sup>rd</sup>, Shaw of the 176<sup>th</sup> and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

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

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

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

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

<u>Game Species</u>	<u>Closed Season</u>
15 (1) Quail	March 16 — Oct. 31
16 (2) Grouse	March 1 — Oct. 14
17 (3) Turkey	
18 (A) Gobblers	May 22 — March 14
19 (B) Hens	All year
20 (4) Deer	Jan. 16 — <del>Sept. 14</del> <u>Sept. 7</u>
21 (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. <del>15</del> <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. <del>15</del> <u>8</u> — Jan. 15	1	1
5	(13) Alligators	April 1 — Oct. 31	Subject to limits adopted by the board"	

6 **SECTION 2.**

7 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.