

House Bill 80

By: Representatives Jenkins of the 93rd and Crawford of the 91st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 licenses, permits, and stamps generally, so as to authorize the killing of deer causing damage
3 to a home garden; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

6 Chapter 2 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to licenses, permits,
7 and stamps generally, is amended by striking in its entirety Code Section 27-2-18, relating
8 to permits to kill deer causing damage to crops, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:
9 "27-2-18.

10 The department shall be authorized to issue to a person who cultivates crops, who is
11 immediately responsible for their cultivation, or who is the principal owner of the crops a
12 permit to kill deer which have caused or are reasonably certain to cause damage to crops
13 which were planted for the purpose of harvesting and marketing such crops or their
14 by-products or harvesting crops for home consumption. As used in this Code section, the
15 term 'crops' shall include, without limitation, home gardens. The person shall apply to the
16 department for such a permit on a form containing such information as may be necessary
17 for the proper evaluation and consideration of the application. Permits shall be issued only
18 in cases where the department has determined that the killing of deer is justified.
19 Representatives of the department are authorized to investigate claims of damage and the
20 necessity of killing deer prior to the issuance of such a permit. Permits issued by the
21 department shall include restrictions and conditions relative to the property on which deer
22 may be killed, persons authorized to kill deer on the property, crops which may be
23 protected, number and sex of deer which may be killed, expiration of permit, and such
24 other restrictions and conditions as may be necessary. It shall be unlawful for any person
25 to kill any deer under the authority of any such permit except in accordance with the
26 restrictions and conditions of the permit."

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SECTION 2.

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.