

The House Committee on Game, Fish & Parks offers the following substitute to HB 814:

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 taking of certain wildlife and violations related thereto; to change certain
3 provisions relating to rules and regulations used to establish criminal violations; to change
4 certain provisions relating to licenses for archery and primitive weapons hunting, all weapons
5 hunting licenses, license card carrier requirements, and lifetime sportsman's licenses; to
6 change certain provisions relating to trout, big game, and official Georgia waterfowl licenses;
7 to change certain provisions relating to hunting at night; to change certain provisions relating
8 to legal weapons for hunting wildlife generally; to change certain provisions relating to
9 hunting of wildlife or feral hogs from boats, aircraft, or motor vehicles; to repeal certain
10 provisions relating to taking, capturing, and killing diamondback terrapins; to provide
11 effective dates; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

14 Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to game and fish, is amended by
15 striking Code Section 27-1-39, relating to rules and regulations used to establish criminal
16 violations, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

17 "27-1-39.

18 Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, for purposes of establishing criminal
19 violations of the rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of Natural Resources as
20 provided in this title, the terms 'rules' and regulations' shall mean those rules and
21 regulations of the Board of Natural Resources in force and effect on ~~July 1, 2002~~ October
22 1, 2003."

23 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

24 Said title is further amended by striking subsection (c) of Code Section 27-2-3.1, relating to
25 licenses for archery and primitive weapons hunting, all weapons hunting licenses, license

1 card carrier requirements, and lifetime sportsman's licenses, and inserting in lieu thereof the
2 following:

3 "(c) The requirements in this title for procuring any license or permit for noncommercial
4 hunting and fishing privileges, except for hunting alligators, shall be satisfied by a resident
5 who procures a sportsman license. An applicant for such license shall, prior to the issuance
6 of the license, complete a screening questionnaire associated with the federal Migratory
7 Bird Harvest Information Program."

8 **SECTION 3.**

9 Said title is further amended by striking Code Section 27-2-6, relating to trout, big game, and
10 official Georgia waterfowl licenses, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

11 "27-2-6.

12 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person who has attained the age of 16 years to fish for or
13 possess mountain trout or to fish in any waters designated as trout waters or trout streams
14 pursuant to Code Section 27-4-51 unless such person has in his or her possession a trout
15 license in addition to his or her fishing license.

16 (b) It shall be unlawful for any person who has attained the age of 16 years to hunt or
17 possess big game unless such person has in his or her possession a big game license in
18 addition to the required hunting license; provided, however, that all nonresidents,
19 regardless of age, must possess a nonresident hunting license along with any harvest
20 records required by law or regulation to hunt big game in this state.

21 (c) It shall be unlawful for any person who has attained the age of 16 years to hunt ducks,
22 geese, or swans unless such person has in his or her possession an official Georgia
23 waterfowl license in addition to the required hunting license.

24 (d) It shall be unlawful for any person who has attained the age of 16 years to hunt
25 alligators unless such person has in his or her possession an alligator hunting license in
26 addition to the required hunting license; provided, however, that this subsection shall not
27 apply to lifetime license holders.

28 ~~(d)~~(e) No resident of this state shall be required to obtain a trout license, official Georgia
29 waterfowl license, or big game license to hunt, fish, or trap on premises owned by him or
30 her or his or her immediate family.

31 ~~(e)~~(f) Any visitor to a state park, whether a resident or nonresident of Georgia, shall not
32 be required to purchase a trout license when fishing in impounded waters on lands owned
33 or leased by the department."

