

Senate Bill 206

By: Senator Bulloch of the 11th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to hunting, trapping, and fishing licenses and permits, so as to change certain
3 provisions relating to wildlife control permits; to prohibit releasing any trapped or
4 transported feral hog into any area that is not fenced to prevent the escape of such feral hog
5 onto the land of another; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
9 hunting, trapping, and fishing licenses and permits, is amended by revising Code Section
10 27-2-31, relating to wildlife control permits, as follows:

11 "27-2-31.

12 (a) The department is authorized to issue wildlife control permits authorizing the permittee
13 to trap, transport and release, or kill wildlife and feral hogs where such action is otherwise
14 prohibited by law or regulation:

15 (1) When the department determines that there is a substantial likelihood the presence
16 of such wildlife or feral hogs will endanger or cause injury to persons or will destroy or
17 damage agricultural crops, domestic animals, buildings, structures, or other personal
18 property;

19 (2) For the control of white-tailed deer on airport property; provided, however, that
20 permits shall be issued under this paragraph for purposes of public safety, and the control
21 of white-tailed deer for other purposes and the removal of black bear shall be as provided
22 in Code Sections 27-2-18 and 27-3-21, respectively;

23 (3) For fur-bearing animals, as defined in paragraph (31) of Code Section 27-1-2, to
24 implement a bona fide wildlife management plan that has been approved by the
25 department; and

26 (4) For feral hogs, provided that all permitted activities must comply with all rules and
27 regulations of the Georgia Department of Agriculture; and provided, further, that no
28 person shall release any trapped or transported feral hog into any area that is not fenced
29 to prevent the escape of such feral hog onto the land of another.

30 (b) In issuing a wildlife control permit, the department shall prescribe the method, means,
31 species, numbers, time limits, location, and any other conditions it deems necessary to
32 ensure the continued viability of the wildlife population involved and to ensure that the
33 public safety and interest are not compromised.

34 (c) Nothing in this Code section shall be construed to authorize the taking of any species
35 which is protected by the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, Public Law 93-205, as
36 amended, or under any state law or regulation which has as its purpose the protection of
37 endangered or threatened species."

SECTION 2.

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