

House Bill 126

By: Representatives Hamilton of the 24<sup>th</sup>, Dudgeon of the 25<sup>th</sup>, Duncan of the 26<sup>th</sup>, Rogers of the 29<sup>th</sup>, Tanner of the 9<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 10 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to obstruction of public administration and related offenses, so as to provide a  
3 definition; to prohibit any person from knowingly and willfully obstructing or hindering any  
4 park ranger in the lawful discharge of such park ranger's official duties; to prohibit any  
5 person from knowingly and willfully resisting, obstructing, or opposing any park ranger in  
6 the lawful discharge of such park ranger's official duties by offering or doing violence to the  
7 person of such park ranger; to provide for penalties; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other  
8 purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

11 Article 2 of Chapter 10 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
12 obstruction of public administration and related offenses, is amended by adding a new Code  
13 section to read as follows:

14 "16-10-24.4.

15 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'park ranger' means any person, other than a law  
16 enforcement officer and other individuals covered under Code Section 16-10-24, however  
17 designated, who is employed by the state, any political subdivision of the state, or the  
18 United States for the enforcement of park rules and regulations.

19 (b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c) of this Code section, a person who  
20 knowingly and willfully obstructs or hinders any park ranger in the lawful discharge of his  
21 or her official duties is guilty of a misdemeanor.

22 (c) Whoever knowingly and willfully resists, obstructs, or opposes any park ranger in the  
23 lawful discharge of his or her official duties by offering or doing violence to the person of  
24 such park ranger is guilty of a felony and shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by  
25 imprisonment for not less than one nor more than five years."

26

**SECTION 2.**

27 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.