

House Bill 160

By: Representatives Dunahoo of the 30<sup>th</sup>, Jasperse of the 11<sup>th</sup>, Chandler of the 105<sup>th</sup>, Gravley of the 67<sup>th</sup>, Rogers of the 29<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to wildlife trapping, trappers, and fur dealers, so as to repeal a provision prohibiting  
3 the trapping of raccoons in certain counties; to provide for related matters; to provide for an  
4 effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

7 Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
8 wildlife trapping, trappers, and fur dealers, is amended by revising Code Section 27-3-62,  
9 relating to open seasons, as follows:

10 "27-3-62.

11 (a) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Code section, it shall be unlawful to  
12 trap any wildlife in this state between March 1 and November 19.

13 (b) It shall be unlawful to trap any wildlife during the period between November 20 and  
14 February 29, except as otherwise provided in this Code section and except that it shall not  
15 be unlawful to trap a fur-bearing animal during that period or a portion thereof if that  
16 period or portion thereof is designated by the board as an open trapping season for such  
17 fur-bearing animal.

18 (c) In accordance with subsection (b) of this Code section and as may be appropriate in  
19 accordance with sound wildlife management principles, the board is authorized to  
20 promulgate rules and regulations establishing open seasons for the trapping of fur-bearing  
21 animals on a state-wide, regional, or local basis.

22 (d) Notwithstanding subsection (a) or (b) of this Code section, it shall be lawful to trap  
23 beaver, rats, and mice at any time during the year. It shall also be lawful for any person to  
24 set steel traps within 200 yards of the residence or dwelling of any such person for the  
25 protection of livestock, ratites, poultry, or other fowl or domestic animals from any  
26 predatory bird or animal.

27 ~~(e) Notwithstanding subsection (a) or (b) of this Code section, it shall be unlawful to trap~~  
28 ~~raccoons in that area north of and including Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Barrow,~~  
29 ~~Jackson, Madison, and Elbert counties at any time during the year.~~  
30 ~~(f)(e)~~ Any person who violates any provision of this Code section shall be guilty of a  
31 misdemeanor."

32 **SECTION 2.**

33 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
34 without such approval.

35 **SECTION 3.**

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