

The House Committee on Game, Fish and Parks offers the following substitute to HB 451:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 14 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia  
2 Annotated, relating to other educational programs under the "Quality Basic Education Act,"  
3 so as to provide that local boards of education shall be authorized to provide instruction in  
4 hunting safety in grades six through 12; to provide for the adoption of content standards by  
5 the State Board of Education; to provide that local boards of education may establish a  
6 curriculum in hunting safety; to provide for instructor requirements; to provide legislative  
7 findings; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 The General Assembly finds that hunter education courses provide young and beginning  
11 hunters with the information that they need to understand the purposes of hunting, general  
12 hunting practices, the conservation ethic shared by sportsmen and women, an appreciation  
13 for the wildlife of this state, and much more. Providing a hunting safety course in the public  
14 schools of this state is a great way to train and recruit the next generation of sportsmen and  
15 women, teach youth about the benefits of hunting and fishing, and build support for  
16 sportsmen and women led wildlife conservation.

H. B. 451 (SUB)

**SECTION 2.**

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18 Part 14 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
19 relating to other educational programs under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is amended  
20 by revising Code Section 20-2-308, which is reserved, as follows:

21 "20-2-308.

22 (a) Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, each local board of education shall be  
23 authorized to provide instruction in hunting safety in grades six through 12, which  
24 instruction may be incorporated into an existing course of study.

25 (b) No later than April 1, 2026, the State Board of Education shall adopt content standards  
26 for such instruction in hunting safety.

27 (c) Each local board of education shall be authorized to establish a curriculum for  
28 instruction in hunting safety, which curriculum shall be based on the hunter education  
29 courses offered by the Department of Natural Resources.

30 (d) Instruction in hunting safety offered pursuant to this Code section shall be taught by  
31 an individual who is certified as a hunter education instructor by the Department of Natural  
32 Resources. Reserved."

33

**SECTION 3.**

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