

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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HOUSE BILL 589

Short Title: Washington Road Hunting.

(Local)

Sponsors: Representative Rogers.

Referred to: Local and Regional Government II.

March 24, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE RECKLESS USE OF A FIREARM OR BOW AND
2 ARROW AND TO REGULATE HUNTING FROM THE RIGHT-OF-WAY IN
3 WASHINGTON COUNTY.
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5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. It is unlawful to hunt, take, or kill, or to attempt to hunt, take, or
7 kill, any wild animal or wild bird with firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow, on, from, or
8 across the right-of-way of any State-maintained road or highway, or to discharge any
9 firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow on, from, or across the right-of-way of any State-
10 maintained road or highway. A hunter recovering dogs shall not be in violation of this
11 section so long as all the hunter's weapons remain in a motor vehicle.

12 Section 2. It is unlawful to possess a loaded shotgun or center-fire rifle while
13 on the right-of-way of any State-maintained road or highway outside the confines of the
14 passenger area of a vehicle. This section does not apply to the owner in fee or the lessee
15 of the land adjacent to either side of the right-of-way at the point where the person is on
16 the right-of-way.

17 Section 3. This act does not apply to:

- 18 (1) The use or possession of firearms in defense of persons or property;
19 (2) Persons lawfully possessing a firearm under a permit issued pursuant to
20 Article 54B of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes;

- 1 (3) Law enforcement officers or members of the armed forces acting in the
2 line of duty;
- 3 (4) The use of firearms pursuant to the lawful direction of law enforcement
4 officers;
- 5 (5) Persons lawfully engaged in pest control;
- 6 (6) Public or private shooting galleries; or
- 7 (7) Private landowners on their own property using their own firearms to
8 control pests or pursuant to permits issued by the Wildlife Resources
9 Commission.
- 10 Section 4. Violation of this act is a Class 3 misdemeanor.
- 11 Section 5. This act is enforceable by law enforcement officers of the Wildlife
12 Resources Commission, by sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, and by other peace officers with
13 general subject matter jurisdiction.
- 14 Section 6. This act shall apply to Washington County only.
- 15 Section 7. This act becomes effective December 1, 1997.