

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015

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HOUSE BILL 460

Short Title: Reporting of Animal Incidents. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Warren (Primary Sponsor).

For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

Referred to: Wildlife Resources, if favorable, Judiciary IV.

April 2, 2015

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPORTING OF INJURIES INFLICTED ON HUMANS
3 BY DOMESTIC OR WILD ANIMALS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 67 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
6 Article to read:

7 "Article 7.

8 "Reports of Animal Incidents.

9 "**§ 67-37. Reports of incidents involving injuries inflicted on humans by domestic or wild**
10 **animals.**

11 A person who has suffered a bite, scratch, or other injury directly inflicted by a domestic
12 animal not owned by the person or by a wild animal may notify the appropriate law
13 enforcement agency that such an incident has occurred and that personal injury has resulted. If
14 the incident occurred in a city or town, the appropriate law enforcement agency is the police
15 department of that city or town. If the attack occurred outside a city or town, the appropriate
16 law enforcement agency is either the sheriff's department or any county police department for
17 that county. If the incident results in the death of the person, or if that person is otherwise
18 unable to make the request, a person who witnessed the incident may make the notification.

19 A law enforcement agency receiving notification under this section shall investigate the
20 incident within 24 hours of receiving the notification and shall make a written report
21 summarizing the incident and describing the injury inflicted on the person by the animal. The
22 law enforcement officer who prepares the written report shall forward it to that officer's law
23 enforcement agency. A report made pursuant to this section may be used in any manner as
24 evidence, or for any other purpose, in any civil or criminal trial, as permitted under the rules of
25 evidence."

26 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2015, and applies to incidents
27 occurring on or after that date.

