

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015

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HOUSE BILL 460
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/29/15
Third Edition Engrossed 4/29/15

Short Title: Reporting of Animal Incidents.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

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) A person who has suffered a bite, scratch, or other injury directly inflicted by a
12 domestic 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, or, if there is no police department for that city or town, either
16 the sheriff's department or any county police department for that county. If the attack occurred
17 outside a city or town, the appropriate law enforcement agency is either the sheriff's department
18 or any county police department for that county. If the incident results in the death of the
19 person, or if that person is otherwise unable to make the request, a person who witnessed the
20 incident may make the notification.

21 (b) A law enforcement agency receiving notification under subsection (a) of this section
22 shall investigate the incident within 48 hours of receiving the notification and may make a
23 written report summarizing the incident and describing the injury inflicted on the person by the
24 animal. The law enforcement officer who prepares the written report shall forward it to that
25 officer's law enforcement agency. A report made pursuant to this subsection may be used in any
26 manner as evidence, or for any other purpose, in any civil or criminal trial, as permitted under
27 the rules of evidence. Any report of a domestic or wild mammal bite received by a law
28 enforcement agency shall be immediately forwarded to the Local Health Director for
29 appropriate rabies control measures in accordance with Chapter 130A of the General Statutes."

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



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