

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2017

FILED SENATE  
Mar 21, 2017  
S.B. 348  
PRINCIPAL CLERK

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SENATE BILL DRS15074-LG-41 (03/07)

Short Title: Adopt Bobwhite Quail as State Game Bird. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators McInnis and Lowe (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO ADOPT THE BOBWHITE QUAIL AS THE OFFICIAL GAME BIRD OF THE  
3 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

4 Whereas, the Northern bobwhite or bobwhite quail is found throughout the State of  
5 North Carolina but most common in the eastern portion of the State; and

6 Whereas, the male bobwhite quail is known for its whistle during mating season that  
7 sounds like "bobwhite"; and

8 Whereas, bobwhite quail live on the ground, where they eat seeds, fruit, and insects;  
9 and

10 Whereas, bobwhite quail are related to turkeys and chickens and are considered  
11 game birds in North Carolina; and

12 Whereas, the hunting season for bobwhite quail usually runs between October and  
13 February; and

14 Whereas, hunters use bird dogs to locate bobwhite quail which are often found in  
15 small flocks known as coveys; and

16 Whereas, the State of North Carolina does not have an official State game bird;  
17 Now, therefore,

18 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

19 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 145 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new  
20 section to read:

21 "**§ 145-49. State game bird.**

22 The Northern bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*) or bobwhite quail is adopted as the official  
23 game bird of the State of North Carolina."

24 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

