

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017

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SENATE BILL 677

Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources Committee Substitute Adopted 6/20/18

Short Title: Protect Right to Hunt and Fish.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

June 7, 2017

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION TO PROTECT THE
3 RIGHT TO HUNT, FISH, AND HARVEST WILDLIFE.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Article I of the North Carolina Constitution is amended by adding a
6 new section to read:

7 "**Sec. 38. Right to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife.**

8 The right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife is a valued part of the State's heritage
9 and shall be forever preserved for the public good. The people have a right, including the right
10 to use traditional methods, to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife, subject only to laws enacted by the
11 General Assembly and rules adopted pursuant to authority granted by the General Assembly to
12 (i) promote wildlife conservation and management and (ii) preserve the future of hunting and
13 fishing. This section shall not be construed to modify any provision of law relating to public
14 safety, trespass, property rights, eminent domain, or the regulation of commercial activities."

15 **SECTION 2.** The amendment set out in Section 1 of this act shall be submitted to
16 the qualified voters of the State at a statewide general election to be held in November of 2018,
17 which election shall be conducted under the laws then governing elections in the State. Ballots,
18 voting systems, or both may be used in accordance with Chapter 163 of the General Statutes. The
19 question to be used in the voting systems and ballots shall be:

20 "[] FOR [] AGAINST

21 Constitutional amendment protecting the right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest
22 wildlife."

23 **SECTION 3.** If a majority of votes cast on the question are in favor of the amendment
24 set out in Section 1 of this act, the Bipartisan State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement
25 shall certify the amendment to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State shall enroll the
26 amendment so certified among the permanent records of that office.

27 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

