

The Senate Natural Resources and the Environment Committee offered the following substitute to HB 207:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to licenses, permits, and stamps for hunting, trapping, or fishing, so as to authorize
3 a special turkey-hunting season for certain young and mobility impaired hunters; to amend
4 Code Section 27-3-15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to wildlife hunting
5 seasons and bag limits, so as to establish the firearms deer hunting season for certain
6 counties; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 SECTION 1.

9 Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
10 licenses, permits, and stamps for hunting, trapping, or fishing, is amended by adding a new
11 Code section to read as follows:

12 "27-2-4.4.

13 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'mobility impaired person' means any person
14 who has been verified by a doctor of medicine currently licensed to practice by the Georgia
15 Composite Medical Board, the State Board of Examiners in Osteopathy, or an equivalent
16 body of another state to have any one of the following permanent conditions:

17 (1) Dependence upon a wheelchair or similar device for ambulation;

18 (2) Hemiplegia;

19 (3) Monoplegia;

20 (4) Paraplegia; or

21 (5) Single-leg amputation above the knee.

22 (b) The board shall promulgate rules and regulations authorizing the hunting of turkeys
23 during an extended open season to:

24 (1) Any person who is 16 years of age or younger; or

25 (2) Any mobility impaired person.

26 (c) Notwithstanding any provisions of Code Section 27-3-15 to the contrary, such
 27 extended season shall be for the weekend prior to the first weekend of the open turkey
 28 season, as established by the board.

29 (d) Such special authorization shall be subject to all other provisions of this title."

30 **SECTION 2.**

31 Code Section 27-3-15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to wildlife hunting
 32 seasons and bag limits, is amended by revising subsection (b) as follows:

33 "(b) It shall be unlawful to hunt the following game species at any time during the period
 34 set forth below, except that it shall not be unlawful to hunt the following game species
 35 during such periods or portions thereof, and in such number not to exceed the following
 36 numbers, as may be designated by the board as open seasons and bag limits for such
 37 species:

<u>Game Species</u>	<u>Maximum Open Season</u>	<u>Maximum Bag Limits</u>	
		<u>Daily</u>	<u>Season</u>
(1) Quail	Nov. 1 — March 15	12	No limit
(2) Grouse	Oct. 15 — Feb. 29	3	No limit
(3) Turkey gobblers	March 15 — May 21	3	3
(4) Deer	Sept. 8 — Jan. 15; except provided, <u>however,</u> that there may be also an extended archery-only open season Jan. 1 — Jan. 31 in the counties of Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, and Rockdale due to the extra need for herd reduction in that urban and suburban area of the state; <u>and provided,</u> <u>further, that the open season for firearms</u> <u>in the counties of Glascock, Jones, and</u> <u>Crawford shall be Oct. 20 — Jan. 15</u>	The daily limit shall be ten antlerless deer and two antlered bucks. The season limit shall be ten antlerless deer and two antlered bucks. Only one antlered buck may have less than four points one inch or longer on one side of the antlers.	

56			Up to two deer per
57			managed hunt may be
58			allowed on wildlife
59			management areas
60			without complying
61			with the state-wide
62			bag limit
63	(5) Bobcat	Oct. 15 — Feb. 29	No limit No limit
64	(6) Opossum	(A) Oct. 15 — Feb. 29, for that area	No limit No limit
65		north of and including Haralson,	
66		Paulding, Bartow, Cherokee, Forsyth,	
67		Hall, Banks, Franklin, and Hart counties;	
68		and	
69		(B) Jan. 1 — Dec. 31 for the	No limit No limit
70		remainder of the state	
71	(7) Rabbit	Nov. 1 — Feb. 29	12 No limit
72	(8) Raccoon	(A) Oct. 15 — Feb. 29, for that area	No limit No limit
73		north of and including Carroll, Fulton,	
74		Gwinnett, Barrow, Clarke, Oglethorpe,	
75		Taliaferro, Wilkes, and Lincoln counties;	
76		and	
77		(B) Jan. 1 — Dec. 31 for the	No limit No limit
78		remainder of the state	
79	(9) Squirrel	Aug. 15 — Feb. 29	12 No limit
80	(10) Fox	Jan. 1 — Dec. 31	No limit No limit
81	(11) Migratory	Sept. 1 — March 10	Subject to limits set
82	game		by the federal
83	birds		government and
84			adopted by the board
85	(12) Bear	Sept. 8 — Jan. 15	2 2
86	(13) Alligators	April 1 — Oct. 31	Subject to limits
87			adopted by the board"

SECTION 3.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.