**South Carolina General Assembly**

119th Session, 2011-2012

**S. 122**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senators Campsen, McConnell, Rose and Fair

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Introduced in the Senate on January 11, 2011

Last Amended on February 16, 2011

Currently residing in the Senate

Summary: Self defense against big game animals

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

12/1/2010 Senate Prefiled

12/1/2010 Senate Referred to Committee on **Fish, Game and Forestry**

1/11/2011 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 58](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2011\01-11-11.docx))

1/11/2011 Senate Referred to Committee on **Fish, Game and Forestry** ([Senate Journal‑page 58](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2011\01-11-11.docx))

2/2/2011 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Fish, Game and Forestry** ([Senate Journal‑page 15](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2011\02-02-11.docx))

2/16/2011 Senate Committee Amendment Adopted ([Senate Journal‑page 21](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2011\02-16-11.docx))

2/17/2011 Scrivener's error corrected

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/1/2010](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\122_20101201.docx)

[2/2/2011](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\122_20110202.docx)

[2/16/2011](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\122_20110216.docx)

[2/17/2011](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\122_20110217.docx)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT ADOPTED

February 16, 2011

**S. 122**

Introduced by Senators Campsen, McConnell, Rose and Fair

S. Printed 2/16/11--S. [SEC 2/17/11 11:50 AM]

Read the first time January 11, 2011.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 50‑11‑108 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON MAY USE A FIREARM TO KILL OR ATTEMPT TO KILL ANY ANIMAL DURING ANY SEASON IN SELF‑DEFENSE, DEFENSE OF ANOTHER, OR DEFENSE OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS, AND TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON WHO USES DEADLY FORCE AGAINST A BIG GAME ANIMAL OR ALLIGATOR MUST REPORT THE INCIDENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN ANIMAL CARCASSES TAKEN PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE RETAINED, AND TO PROVIDE A PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO REPORT THE INCIDENT OR SURRENDER THE CARCASS.

Amend Title To Conform

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 11, Title 50 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 50‑11‑108. (A) A person may use a firearm if he is not prohibited by law from possessing a firearm, or may use any other deadly weapon at any time and during any season to kill or attempt to kill any animal if the person reasonably concludes it is necessary for the purpose of:

(1) self‑defense;

(2) defense of another person; or

(3) defense of domestic animals.

(B) Any person who uses deadly force against a big game animal or alligator in defense of persons or domestic animals as provided for in this section immediately must report the incident to the Department of Natural Resources. No big game animal or alligator taken as provided for in this section may be retained, by the person or persons taking the big game animal or alligator. The big game animal or alligator carcass must be surrendered to the Department of Natural Resources. Failure to report the incident or surrender the carcass is a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined up to two thousand dollars or imprisoned for up to one year, or both. Notwithstanding this section, all other laws protecting and regulating taking of big game and alligators shall apply.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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