~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

COMMITTEE REPORT

March 28, 2012

**H. 4943**

Introduced by Reps. Lowe, Crawford, Erickson, Patrick, Brannon, Ott, Bowers, G.A. Brown, Clemmons, Cole, Frye, Merrill, Pitts, Spires, Tallon, White, Knight and G.M. Smith

S. Printed 3/28/12--H.

Read the first time March 1, 2012.

**THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NATURAL**

**RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

To whom was referred a Bill (H. 4943) to amend the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Section 50‑11‑715 so as to provide for the hunting of coyotes, armadillos, and feral hogs, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass with amendment:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, by striking all after the enacting words and inserting:

/SECTION 1. Article 4, Chapter 11, Title 50 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 50‑11‑715. Notwithstanding another provision of law, on private property, the landowner, or his lessee or agent with written permission, a valid hunting license, and the landowner’s contact information in his possession, may take coyotes, armadillos, and feral hogs during the nighttime hours from one hour after official sunset on the last day of February to one hour before official sunrise the first day of July of that same year. The method of such taking shall be with any legal firearm or archery equipment and may be with or without the aid of bait, electronic calls, artificial light, infrared, thermal or laser sighting devices, night vision devices, or any device aiding the identification or targeting of species. All center fire rifles must be fired from an elevated position at least ten feet from the ground when hunting between the hours of one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise.”

SECTION 2. Section 50-16-70 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 211 of 2010, is further amended to read:

“Section 50-16-70. (A) A person violating the provisions of this chapter, or any condition of a permit issued pursuant to this chapter, is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than ~~one thousand~~ five hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than ~~six months~~ thirty days, or both. The department must suspend the hunting privileges of a person convicted of violating this chapter for one year from the date of the conviction.

(B) In addition to any other penalty, every vehicle, animal, firearm, or other equipment used by an individual violating Section 50-16-20 is forfeited to the department and must be disposed of in accordance with Section 50-11-740.”

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor. /

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

NELSON L. HARDWICK for Committee.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 50‑11‑715 SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE HUNTING OF COYOTES, ARMADILLOS, AND FERAL HOGS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY DURING NIGHTTIME HOURS.

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

SECTION 1. Article 4, Chapter 11, Title 50 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 50‑11‑715. Notwithstanding another provision of law, on private property, the landowner, or his lessee or agent with written permission, a valid hunting license, and the landowner’s contact information in his possession, may take coyotes, armadillos, and feral hogs during the nighttime hours from one hour after official sunset on the last day of February to one hour before official sunrise the first day of July of that same year. The method of such taking shall be with any legal firearm or arrow shooting device and may be with or without the aid of bait, electronic calls, artificial light, infrared, thermal or laser sighting devices, night vision devices, or any device aiding the identification or targeting of species. All center fire rifles must be fired from an elevated position at least ten feet from the ground when hunting between the hours of one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise.”

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

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