

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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SENATE BILL 172  
Corrected Copy 2/19/97

Short Title: No Safety Course/Disabled Hunters.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Albertson; Carpenter, Carrington, Cooper, Dannelly, Foxx, Kincaid, Martin of Pitt, Martin of Guilford, Shaw of Guilford, Warren, and Wellons.

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Referred to: Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources.

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February 18, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF HUNTING LICENSES FOR CERTAIN DISABLED HUNTERS WHO HAVE NOT COMPLIED WITH THE HUNTING SAFETY COURSE REQUIREMENT.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 113-270.1A reads as rewritten:  
**"§ 113-270.1A. Hunter safety course required.**

(a) ~~On~~ Except as provided in subsection (a1) of this section, on or after July 1, 1991, a person, regardless of age, may not procure a hunting license or hunt in this State without producing a certificate of competency or a hunting license issued prior to July 1, 1991, or signing a statement on a form provided by the Wildlife Resources Commission that he had such a license.

(a1) A person who qualifies for a totally disabled resident combination hunting-fishing license under G.S. 113-270.2(c)(12) need not comply with the requirements of subsection (a) of this section in order to receive that license, so long as the person does not make use of the license unless:

(1) The person is accompanied by an adult of at least 21 years of age who is licensed to hunt; and

1           (2)    The adult hunter maintains a proximity to the disabled hunter which  
2                    enables the adult to take immediate control of the hunting device at all  
3                    times.

4           (b)    The Wildlife Resources Commission shall institute and coordinate a statewide  
5 course of instruction in hunter ethics, wildlife laws and regulations, and competency and  
6 safety in the handling of firearms, and in so doing, may cooperate with any political  
7 subdivision, or with any reputable organization having as one of its objectives the  
8 promotion of competency and safety in the handling of firearms, including local rod and  
9 gun clubs.

10          (1)    The Wildlife Resources Commission shall designate those persons or  
11 agencies authorized to give the course of instruction, and this  
12 designation shall be valid until revoked by the Commission. Those  
13 designated persons shall submit to the Wildlife Resources Commission  
14 validated listings naming all persons who have successfully completed  
15 the course of instruction.

16          (2)    The Wildlife Resources Commission may conduct the course in hunter  
17 safety, using Commission personnel or other persons at times and in  
18 areas where other competent agencies are unable or unwilling to meet  
19 the demand for instruction.

20          (3)    The Wildlife Resources Commission shall issue a certificate of  
21 competency and safety to each person who successfully completes the  
22 course of instruction, and the certificate shall be valid until revoked by  
23 the Commission.

24          (4)    Any similar certificate issued outside the State by a governmental  
25 agency, shall be accepted as complying with the requirements of  
26 subsection (a) above, if the privileges are reciprocal for North Carolina  
27 residents.

28          (5)    The Wildlife Resources Commission shall adopt rules and regulations to  
29 provide for the course of instruction and the issuance of the certificates  
30 consistent with the purpose of this section.

31          (c)    On or after July 1, 1991, any person who obtains a hunting license by  
32 presenting a fictitious certificate of competency or who attempts to obtain a certificate of  
33 competency or hunting license through fraud shall have his hunting privileges revoked by  
34 the Wildlife Resources Commission for a period not to exceed one year.

35          (d)    Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the sale of lifetime  
36 licenses as provided in G.S. 113-270.2(c)(1a). Pending satisfactory completion of the  
37 hunter safety course, persons who possess such licenses may exercise the privileges  
38 thereof when accompanied by an adult at least 21 years of age who is licensed to hunt in  
39 this State. For the purpose of this section, 'accompanied' is defined as being able to take  
40 immediate control of the hunting device."

41                Section 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.