

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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**HOUSE BILL 505
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/31/05**

Short Title: WRC Study Sunday Hunting.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 7, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES
3 COMMISSION TO STUDY THE ISSUE OF ALLOWING HUNTING ON
4 SUNDAY AT A LIMITED NUMBER OF STATE GAME LANDS IN NORTH
5 CAROLINA.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** The Wildlife Resources Commission shall study the issue of
8 allowing hunting on Sundays at a limited number of State game lands. In conducting its
9 study, the Commission shall consider, but is not limited to, the following issues:

- 10 (1) Individual game land suitability for Sunday hunting, including the
11 status of resident wildlife species, proximity to population centers, and
12 range of recreational opportunities available.
13 (2) Allowable hunting activities, including methods of taking and the use
14 of dogs.
15 (3) Limiting hunting privileges to avoid conflict with religious services.
16 (4) The needs of persons pursuing nonhunting outdoor recreational
17 activities, including private landowners, family picnics, hiking,
18 canoeing, birding, horseback riding, climbing, and biking.

19 **SECTION 2.(a)** In conducting the study, the Commission shall obtain input
20 from representatives of interested parties, including landowners, the North Carolina
21 Wildlife Federation, the Sierra Club and other conservation organizations, the North
22 Carolina Farm Bureau and other agricultural organizations, the North Carolina Horse
23 Council, hunting clubs and organizations, controlled hunting preserve operators,
24 religious organizations, and other outdoor recreational clubs and organizations.

25 **SECTION 2.(b)** As a part of the study, the Commission shall conduct at
26 least one public hearing in each of its nine regions on the issue of allowing Sunday
27 hunting on selected game lands.

28 **SECTION 3.** The Wildlife Resources Commission shall report its findings
29 and recommendations, including a recommendation whether to amend, repeal, or leave

1 intact the existing ban on Sunday hunting, to the Joint Legislative Commission on
2 Governmental Operations no later than March 15, 2006.

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