

House Bill 126 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Hamilton of the 24th, Dudgeon of the 25th, Duncan of the 26th, Rogers of the 29th, Tanner of the 9th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 10 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to obstruction of public administration and related offenses, so as to provide a
3 definition; to prohibit any person from knowingly and willfully obstructing or hindering any
4 park ranger in the lawful discharge of such park ranger's official duties; to prohibit any
5 person from knowingly and willfully resisting, obstructing, or opposing any park ranger in
6 the lawful discharge of such park ranger's official duties by offering or doing violence to the
7 person of such park ranger; to provide for penalties; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
8 purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 Article 2 of Chapter 10 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
12 obstruction of public administration and related offenses, is amended by adding a new Code
13 section to read as follows:

14 "16-10-24.4.

15 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'park ranger' means any person, other than a law
16 enforcement officer and other individuals covered under Code Section 16-10-24, however
17 designated, who is employed by the state, any political subdivision of the state, or the
18 United States for the enforcement of park rules and regulations.

19 (b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c) of this Code section, a person who
20 knowingly and willfully obstructs or hinders any park ranger in the lawful discharge of his
21 or her official duties shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

22 (c) Whoever knowingly and willfully resists, obstructs, or opposes any park ranger in the
23 lawful discharge of his or her official duties by offering or doing violence to the person of
24 such park ranger shall be guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, be punished by
25 imprisonment for not less than one nor more than five years."

26

SECTION 2.

27 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.