

The House Committee on Game, Fish and Parks offers the following substitute to HB 927:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 3 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to hunting, so as to revise provisions concerning hunting; to extend an exception for
3 the use of air guns to hunt wildlife; to authorize fluorescent pink hunting outer garments; to
4 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Article 1 of Chapter 3 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
8 hunting, is amended in Code Section 27-3-4, relating to legal weapons for hunting wildlife
9 generally, use of silencers and suppressors prohibited, and penalty for violations, by revising
10 paragraph (9) of subsection (a) as follows:

11 "(9) For purposes of this subsection, the term 'air gun' means any pistol, handgun, or
12 shoulder-held device, each of not less than 0.30 caliber, or air bow that propels a
13 projectile in the form of a slug, shot, or arrow equipped with a broadhead utilizing
14 unignited compressed air or gas. Air guns are legal weapons for hunting big game only
15 during primitive weapon hunts, primitive weapon seasons, and firearm seasons. This
16 paragraph shall stand repealed effective July 1, ~~2025~~ 2028, unless continued in effect by

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17 the General Assembly prior to that date. At its ~~2025~~ 2028 regular session, the General
18 Assembly shall review this paragraph to determine whether it should be continued in
19 effect."

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SECTION 2.

21 Said article is further amended in Code Section 27-3-24, relating to restrictions on hunting
22 feral hogs, by revising subsection (a) as follows:

23 "(a) It shall be unlawful to hunt, or engage in the hunting of, feral hogs:

24 (1) Upon the lands of another or enter upon the lands of another in pursuit of feral hogs
25 without first obtaining permission from the landowner or lessee of such land or the lessee
26 of the game rights of such land;

27 (2) Upon any land which is posted without having the permission required by
28 paragraph (1) of this subsection in writing and carried upon the person; or

29 (3) During the firearms deer season unless the hunter and each person accompanying the
30 hunter are wearing a total of at least 500 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange or
31 fluorescent pink material as an outer garment and such material or garment is worn above
32 the waistline, and may include a head covering."

33

SECTION 3.

34 Said article is further amended by revising Code Section 27-3-25, relating to hunting bears
35 and required outer garments, as follows:

36 "27-3-25.

37 It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt bears or for any person to accompany another
38 person hunting bears unless each person shall wear a total of at least 500 square inches of
39 daylight fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink material as an outer garment during
40 firearms and primitive weapons seasons. Such clothing must be worn above the waistline
41 and may include a head covering."

42 **SECTION 4.**

43 Said article is further amended by revising Code Section 27-3-40, relating to required
44 clothing, as follows:

45 "27-3-40.

46 It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt deer or for any person to accompany another
47 person hunting deer during the firearms deer season unless each person shall wear a total
48 of at least 500 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink material as
49 an outer garment. Such clothing must be worn above the waistline and may include a head
50 covering."

51 **SECTION 5.**

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