

AN ACT

To amend Part 1 of Article 1 of Chapter 3 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general hunting provisions, so as to prohibit the removal, transportation, storage, or processing of game animal or game bird carcasses except in compliance with applicable harvest recording and reporting laws and regulations of the Board of Natural Resources; to amend Chapter 1 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions relative to game and fish, so as to update provisions relating to applicability of regulations establishing criminal violations; to amend Part 2 of Article 1 of Chapter 3 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to deer hunting, so as to repeal obsolete provisions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Part 1 of Article 1 of Chapter 3 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general hunting provisions, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

"27-3-29.

(a) The board shall promulgate rules and regulations establishing harvest recording and reporting requirements for game animals and game birds. Such rules and regulations shall describe the type of information that is required, the requirements for transportation of the carcass of a game animal or game bird killed by another person, and the requirements for possession of the carcass of a game animal or game bird by any private or commercial cold storage or processing facility.

(b) Except in compliance with all applicable rules and regulations of the board regarding required harvest recording and reporting, it shall be unlawful for:

(1) Any person killing a game animal or game bird to remove the carcass from the place of killing or for any person to transport the carcass of a game animal or game bird killed by another person; or

(2) Any private or commercial cold storage or processing facility to possess the carcass of a game animal or game bird.

(c) It shall be unlawful to obtain, possess, or otherwise use multiple sets of licenses or harvest records for the purpose of circumventing the bag limit for any game animal or game bird for which a harvest record is required by the rules and regulations of the board.

(d) Any person violating the provisions of this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$200.00 or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or both."

SECTION 2.

Chapter 1 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions relative to game and fish, is amended by revising Code Section 27-1-39, relating to rules and regulations used to establish criminal violations, as follows:

"27-1-39.

Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, for purposes of establishing criminal violations of the rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of Natural Resources as provided in this title, the term 'rules and regulations' means those rules and regulations of the Board of Natural Resources in force and effect on January 1, 2015."

SECTION 3.

Part 2 of Article 1 of Chapter 3 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to deer hunting, is amended by repealing in its entirety Code Section 27-3-45, relating to information required before removal of carcasses from place of killing, and designating said Code section as reserved.

SECTION 4.

Said part is further amended by repealing in its entirety Code Section 27-3-46, relating to failure to affix deer tag prior to storage or processing, and designating said Code section as reserved.

SECTION 5.

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