

## HOUSE BILL 1144: Support WRC Resolutions/Buncombe ROW Hunting.

2016-2017 General Assembly

**Committee:** House Appropriations, Agriculture and

Natural and Economic Resources

**Introduced by:** Rep. Cleveland **Analysis of:** PCS to First Edition

H1144-CSMH-23

**Date:** June 22, 2016

**Prepared by:** Jeff Cherry

Staff Attorney

This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill

SUMMARY: The PCS for House Bill 1144 includes a declaration of support from the General Assembly for two resolutions pertaining to red wolves passed by the Wildlife Resources Commission as well as a prohibition on hunting with or discharge of firearms and certain other weapons from any road or highway in Buncombe County.

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S884, as introduced by Sen. Cook, which is currently in Senate Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources.]

**BILL ANALYSIS: Section 1** of the PCS declares that the General Assembly supports two resolutions of the Wildlife Resources Commission (described below in the "Background" section of this Summary)

**Section 2.(a)** of the PCS prohibits hunting with or discharging a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow from the right-of-way of any State-maintained road or highway, and **Section 2.(b)** makes a violation of this prohibition a Class 3 misdemeanor.

**Section 2.(c)** of the PCS provides that the prohibition may be enforced by either Wildlife Resources Commission law enforcement officers or any other law enforcement officers with subject matter jurisdiction.

Section 2.(d) of the PCS provides that Section 2 of the PCS applies only in Buncombe County.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Section 1 of the act is effective when it becomes law. Section 2 becomes effective October 1, 2016, and applies to acts committed on or after that date.

**BACKGROUND:** At its January, 2015 meeting, the Wildlife Resources Commission passed two resolutions pertaining to the introduced red wolf population in Eastern North Carolina. One resolution asks the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to declare the red wolf extinct in the wild and terminate the Red Wolf Reintroduction Program in five eastern counties of the State. The second resolution requests that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service remove red wolves released in those five counties.

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Legislative Drafting 919-733-6660