



SENATE BILL 217: Richmond/Right-of-Way Safety.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate State and Local Government. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date:	April 25, 2017
Introduced by:	Sen. McInnis	Prepared by:	Brad Krehely Jessica Sammons Committee Co-Counsel
Analysis of:	First Edition		

OVERVIEW: *Senate Bill 217 would prohibit the discharge or attempted discharge of a firearm or bow and arrow from or across the roadway or right-of-way of any public road in Richmond County.*

BILL ANALYSIS: Senate Bill 217 would do all of the following:

- Prohibit the discharge or attempted discharge of a firearm or bow and arrow from, on, across, or over the roadway or right-of-way of any public road in Richmond County. This does not include any unpaved roads within the Wildlife Resources Commission's Sandhills Game Land.
- Provide that a violation of the act would be a Class 3 misdemeanor.¹
- Provide that the act is enforceable by law enforcement officers of the Wildlife Resources Commission, by sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, and by peace officers with general subject matter jurisdiction.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective October 1, 2017, and would apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

BACKGROUND: Similar local laws have been enacted in the following counties:

- Beaufort County – S.L. 2013-176
- Craven County (only applies to a portion of State Road 1862) – S.L. 2009-116
- Martin County – S.L. 2008-50
- Jackson County – S.L. 2008-18
- Tyrrell County (only prohibits reckless use of firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow) – S.L. 2007-273
- Bertie County – S.L. 2007-313
- Cherokee and Clay Counties – S.L. 2004-63

Mariah Matheson, Research Assistant for the Legislative Analysis Division, substantially contributed to this summary.

¹ The punishment for a Class 3 misdemeanor for someone with no more than 3 prior convictions is a fine. For someone with five or more prior convictions, the punishment would be 1-20 days of community, intermediate, or active punishment. Fines for Class 3 misdemeanors generally may not exceed \$200. G.S. 15A-1340.23(b).

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