



## SENATE BILL 249: Coyote Bounty Pilot Program.

2017-2018 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources. If favorable, re-refer to State and Local Government. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	April 25, 2017
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sen. McInnis	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Layla Cummings
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Committee Counsel

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**OVERVIEW:** *Senate Bill 249 would require the Wildlife Resources Commission (Commission) to develop and implement a coyote bounty pilot program in Richmond County.*

**CURRENT LAW:** Currently, there are no bag limits and no closed season on the hunting of coyotes. In Beaufort, Dare, Hyde, Tyrell, and Washington counties, the Commission prohibits the hunting of coyotes at night.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** The bill would require the Commission to develop and implement a coyote tagging and bounty program in Richmond County. The county would be allowed to capture and tag up to 10 coyotes prior to releasing them. The county would be required to neuter any coyotes captured under this program prior to release. The bill would also allow the county or a local nonprofit organization to offer a bounty of not less than \$500 per tagged coyote.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This bill would be effective when it becomes law and only applies to Richmond County.

S249-SMTS-8 (e1) -v-4

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