**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 50‑11‑2540, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE COMMERCIAL TRAPPING SEASON, SO AS TO ESTABLISH AN ANNUAL COYOTE TRAPPING SEASON FROM THANKSGIVING DAY THROUGH MARCH FIRST OF THE FOLLOWING CALENDAR YEAR.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 50‑11‑2540 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 50‑11‑2540. (A) It is lawful to trap furbearing animals for commercial purposes from January first to March first of each year. The trapping season may not exceed sixty‑one days each year under any circumstances. It is unlawful to trap any other times unless authorized by the department. It is lawful to take furbearing animals by other lawful means during the general open hunting seasons established~~therefor~~.

(B) Notwithstanding another provision of law, the season for trapping coyotes is Thanksgiving Day through March first of the following calendar year. The designation of an annual coyote trapping season may not be construed to impede the ability of state and federal employees to trap predatory animals pursuant to Section 50‑11‑1150 or 50‑11‑1160.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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