**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 50‑11‑520, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HUNTING SEASON BY THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, FOR THE HUNTING AND TAKING OF MALE WILD TURKEYS, SO AS TO ESTABLISH ONE STATEWIDE HUNTING SEASON, TO PROVIDE A BAG LIMIT OF FOUR GOBBLERS PER SEASON AND NOT MORE THAN TWO PER DAY, AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT MAY DECLARE AN OPEN OR CLOSED SEASON ONLY ON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS LANDS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 50‑11‑520 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 286 of 2008, is further amended to read:

“Section 50‑11‑520. The statewide season for hunting and taking a male wild turkey (gobbler) ~~in Game Zone 6~~ is March ~~15~~ 22 through May ~~1~~ 7 i~~nclusive; in other game zones the season for hunting and taking a male wild turkey (gobbler) is April 1 through May 1 inclusive~~. ~~The department may make a special study, in a game zone of this State, and after such a study the department may declare other open or closed seasons of such duration as it considers advisable for the taking of turkeys.~~ The bag limit is four gobblers per season, not more than two per day. The department may declare an open or closed season ~~in any of the game zones and~~ on WMA lands by promulgating regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act to establish the dates, places, and bag limits and may set the season and other conditions for hunting and taking wild turkeys ~~on WMA lands~~.”

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

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