**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 50‑11‑500, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE UNLAWFUL TAKING, POSSESSION, OR KILLING OF A WILD TURKEY, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR A PERSON TO EXPORT A LIVE WILD TURKEY OUT OF THIS STATE.

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

SECTION 1. Section 50‑11‑500 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 50‑11‑500. (1) It is unlawful for a person to rob any wild turkey nest or own, possess, control, sell, or otherwise dispose of wild turkey eggs unless the possession of the eggs is authorized by permit issued by the department under the provisions of Section 50‑11‑1180.

(2) It is unlawful for a person to trap or snare any wild turkey.

(3) It is unlawful for a person to hunt, kill, or possess female wild turkeys at any time unless the department sets special open seasons for their taking.

(4) It is unlawful for a person to buy, sell, offer for sale, barter, or have in possession for sale any wild turkeys.

(5) It is unlawful for a person to release in the wild any pen‑raised wild turkey unless that person is granted a permit to do so by the department. These permits are made after the department has caused a thorough study of the area on which pen‑raised turkeys are to be released. The release of these turkeys is to take place under the supervision of department personnel. No pen‑raised turkey may be released for any purpose unless it has been examined for parasites or disease and the release approved by the department not less than thirty days before the date of its release.

(6) It is unlawful for a person to shoot any wild turkey between thirty minutes after official sunset and thirty minutes before official sunrise.

(7) It is unlawful for a person to take or attempt to take a wild turkey with a rifle, pistol, buckshot, or shotgun slug.

(8) It is unlawful for a person to take or attempt to take a wild turkey from a vehicle on a public road.

(9) It is unlawful for a person to take or attempt to take a wild turkey from a watercraft on the waters of this State.

(10) It is unlawful for a person to export a live wild turkey outside of this State.”

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

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