~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT ADOPTED

May 6, 2021

**H. 3694**

Introduced by Reps. Atkinson, Hardee, Hewitt, Fry, Brittain, Hayes, McGinnis, R. Williams, V.S. Moss, Lowe, Bryant, Forrest and Anderson

S. Printed 5/6/21--S.

Read the first time March 17, 2021.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 50‑11‑430, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO BEAR HUNTING, SO AS TO ALLOW FOR THE USE OF BAIT WHEN HUNTING BEAR IN GAME ZONE 4 DURING A CERTAIN TIME PERIOD.

Amend Title To Conform

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

SECTION 1. Section 50‑11‑430(B) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(B) In Game Zones 2, 3, and 4 where the department declares an open season, the department shall determine an appropriate quota of ~~tags to be issued~~ bears to be harvested in each game zone, or county within a game zone, and shall further promulgate regulations necessary to properly control the harvest of bear. The department may close an open season at any time, provided that the department gives at least twenty‑four hours’ notice to the public of the closure.”

SECTION 2. Section 50‑11‑430(D) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(D) ~~In order to properly implement the provisions of subsections (B) and (C), any~~ Any bear taken must be tagged with a valid bear tag and reported by midnight of the day of the harvest to the department as prescribed. The tag must be attached to the bear as prescribed by the department before being moved from the point of kill.”

SECTION 3. Article 3, Chapter 11, Title 50 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 50‑11‑450. (A) For the purposes of this section, ‘unprocessed bait’ means any natural food item harvested from a plant crop that is not modified from its raw components. Unprocessed bait includes unmodified grains, fruits, nuts, and vegetables.

(B) Notwithstanding Section 50‑11‑430(E)(8) and Section 50‑11‑440, a person may take a bear with the aid or use of unprocessed bait, including over an area with unprocessed bait, on private land in Game Zone 4.”

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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