

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2017

SENATE BILL 677  
RATIFIED BILL

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION TO PROTECT THE  
RIGHT TO HUNT, FISH, AND HARVEST WILDLIFE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Article I of the North Carolina Constitution is amended by adding a new section to read:

**"Sec. 38. Right to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife.**

The right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife is a valued part of the State's heritage and shall be forever preserved for the public good. The people have a right, including the right to use traditional methods, to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife, subject only to laws enacted by the General Assembly and rules adopted pursuant to authority granted by the General Assembly to (i) promote wildlife conservation and management and (ii) preserve the future of hunting and fishing. Public hunting and fishing shall be a preferred means of managing and controlling wildlife. Nothing herein shall be construed to modify any provision of law relating to trespass, property rights, or eminent domain."

**SECTION 2.** The amendment set out in Section 1 of this act shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the State at a statewide general election to be held in November of 2018, which election shall be conducted under the laws then governing elections in the State. Ballots, voting systems, or both may be used in accordance with Chapter 163A of the General Statutes. The question to be used in the voting systems and ballots shall be:

"[ ] FOR [ ] AGAINST

Constitutional amendment protecting the right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife."

**SECTION 3.** If a majority of votes cast on the question are in favor of the amendment set out in Section 1 of this act, the Bipartisan State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement shall certify the amendment to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State shall enroll the amendment so certified among the permanent records of that office. The amendment set out in Section 1 of this act is effective upon certification.

**SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2018.

s/ Louis M. Pate  
Presiding Officer of the Senate

s/ Tim Moore  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

