

House Bill 1148 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Rhodes of the 120<sup>th</sup>, Corbett of the 174<sup>th</sup>, LaHood of the 175<sup>th</sup>, Knight of the 130<sup>th</sup>, and Ridley of the 6<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 27-5-2.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 possession of cervid carcasses, so as to remove definitions; to amend which cervid parts may  
3 be brought in from outside of Georgia; to authorize the Department of Natural Resources to  
4 restrict the movement or transport of cervid carcasses, or carcass parts, upon detection of  
5 chronic wasting disease in certain places; to provide for enforcement of violations; to provide  
6 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 27-5-2.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to possession of  
10 cervid carcasses, is amended as follows:

11 "27-5-2.1.

12 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

13 (1) 'Cervid' means a member of the family cervidae.

14 (2) 'Chronic wasting disease' means a fatal disease that belongs to a group of diseases  
15 known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies and that affects the brains of  
16 cervids.

17 (3) ~~'Clean' means having no meat matter or tissue attached to the carcass part.~~

18 ~~(4)~~ 'Importation' means the transportation of a cervid, cervid carcass, or carcass part into  
19 this state.

20 ~~(5)~~(4) 'Whole' means the entire carcass, whether eviscerated or not, prior to the carcass  
21 being processed.

22 (b)(1) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, or association to import,  
23 bring, or cause to be imported or brought into this state any live cervid, except as  
24 otherwise authorized by rule or regulation of the board in effect as of January 1, 2007, or  
25 such later date as may be provided by Code Section 27-1-39.

26 (2)(A) Any person who violates paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be guilty of a  
27 misdemeanor of a high and aggravated nature and upon conviction shall be punished  
28 by a fine of not less than \$1,500.00 nor more than \$5,000.00, imprisonment for a period  
29 not exceeding 12 months, or both such fine and imprisonment.

30 (B) The hunting and fishing privileges of any person convicted of violating  
31 paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be suspended for not less than three years from  
32 the date of conviction.

33 (c) It shall be unlawful for any person to import or possess a whole cervid carcass or  
34 cervid carcass part from any state ~~having a documented case of a cervid infected with~~  
35 ~~chronic wasting disease~~ place outside of Georgia, except for any one or more of the  
36 following cervid carcass parts:

37 (1) ~~Boned-out meat and commercially processed cuts of meat~~ or products thereof;

38 (2) ~~Portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached~~ Antlers, skulls,  
39 skull plates, teeth, or jawbones with no soft tissue attached;

40 (3) Hides with no heads attached; and

41 (4) ~~Clean skull plates with antlers attached~~;

42 (5) ~~Clean antlers~~;

43 (6) Finished taxidermy heads; and

44 ~~(7) Clean upper canine teeth (buglers, whistlers, ivories) mounts.~~

45 (d) Upon the detection of chronic wasting disease in this state or any county adjacent to  
46 the borders of this state, the department shall have the authority to restrict the movement  
47 or transport of cervid carcasses, or carcass parts within this state. A violation of any such  
48 restriction shall be treated as a violation of this Code section."

49 **SECTION 2.**

50 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.