**South Carolina General Assembly**

124th Session, 2021-2022

**A75, R91, H3694**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

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

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Introduced in the House on January 14, 2021

Introduced in the Senate on March 17, 2021

Last Amended on May 6, 2021

Passed by the General Assembly on May 12, 2021

Governor's Action: May 17, 2021, Signed

Summary: Bear hunting

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

1/14/2021 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 572](file:///h:\hj\20210114.docx))

1/14/2021 House Referred to Committee on **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs** ([House Journal‑page 572](file:///h:\hj\20210114.docx))

2/2/2021 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Hardee, Hewitt, Fry, Brittain, Hayes, McGinnis, R.Williams, V.S.Moss, Lowe, Bryant, Forrest

3/2/2021 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Anderson

3/11/2021 House Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs** ([House Journal‑page 2](file:///h:\hj\20210311.docx))

3/16/2021 Scrivener's error corrected

3/16/2021 House Amended ([House Journal‑page 12](file:///h:\hj\20210316.docx))

3/16/2021 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 12](file:///h:\hj\20210316.docx))

3/16/2021 House Roll call Yeas‑100 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 15](file:///h:\hj\20210316.docx))

3/17/2021 House Read third time and sent to Senate ([House Journal‑page 22](file:///h:\hj\20210317.docx))

3/17/2021 Scrivener's error corrected

3/17/2021 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 7](file:///h:\sj\20210317.docx))

3/17/2021 Senate Referred to Committee on **Fish, Game and Forestry** ([Senate Journal‑page 7](file:///h:\sj\20210317.docx))

5/5/2021 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Fish, Game and Forestry** ([Senate Journal‑page 10](file:///h:\sj\20210505.docx))

5/6/2021 Senate Committee Amendment Adopted ([Senate Journal‑page 45](file:///h:\sj\20210506.docx))

5/6/2021 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 45](file:///h:\sj\20210506.docx))

5/6/2021 Senate Roll call Ayes‑45 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 45](file:///h:\sj\20210506.docx))

5/11/2021 Senate Read third time and returned to House with amendments ([Senate Journal‑page 14](file:///h:\sj\20210511.docx))

5/12/2021 House Concurred in Senate amendment and enrolled ([House Journal‑page 75](file:///h:\hj\20210512.docx))

5/12/2021 House Roll call Yeas‑102 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 76](file:///h:\hj\20210512.docx))

5/13/2021 Ratified R 91

5/17/2021 Signed By Governor

6/1/2021 Effective date 05/17/21

6/1/2021 Act No.  75

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

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[3/11/2021](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\3694_20210311.docx)

[3/16/2021](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\3694_20210316.docx)

[3/16/2021-A](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\3694_20210316A.docx)

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[5/5/2021](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\3694_20210505.docx)

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(A75, R91, H3694)

**AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 50‑11‑430, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO BEAR HUNTING, SO AS TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO DETERMINE AN APPROPRIATE QUOTA OF BEARS TO BE HARVESTED IN EACH GAME ZONE AND TO REQUIRE A BEAR TAG FOR ANY BEAR TAKEN IN THIS STATE; AND BY ADDING SECTION 50‑11‑450 SO AS TO ALLOW FOR THE USE OF UNPROCESSED BAIT WHEN HUNTING ON PRIVATE LAND IN GAME ZONE 4.**

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

**Quota of bears to be harvested**

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 bear 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.”

**Bear tag required**

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

“(D) 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.”

**Unprocessed bait authorized in Game Zone 4**

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.”

**Time effective**

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

Ratified the 13th day of May, 2021.

Approved the 17th day of May, 2021.

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