VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2005 SESSION

CHAPTER 564

An Act to amend and reenact § 15.2-1209 of the Code of Virginia, relating to shooting of arrows from bows in populated areas.

[H 2741]

Approved March 22, 2005

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 15.2-1209 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 15.2-1209. Prohibiting outdoor shooting of firearms or arrows from bows in certain areas.

Any county may prohibit the *outdoor* shooting of firearms *or arrows from bows* in any areas of the county which are in the opinion of the governing body so heavily populated as to make such conduct dangerous to the inhabitants thereof.

For purposes of this section, "bow" includes all compound bows, crossbows, longbows and recurve bows having a peak draw weight of 10 pounds or more. The term "bow" does not include bows that have a peak draw of less than 10 pounds or that are designed or intended to be used principally as toys. The term "arrow" means a shaft-like projectile intended to be shot from a bow.

Any county that prohibits the firing outdoor shooting of firearms or arrows from bows shall provide an exemption for the killing of deer pursuant to § 29.1-529. Such exemption for the shooting of firearms shall apply on land of at least five acres that is zoned for agricultural use. Such exemption for the shooting of arrows from bows shall apply on land of at least two acres that is zoned for agricultural use.