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**HOUSE BILL NO. 704****AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**

(Proposed by the House Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Hogan)

House Amendments in [ ] - February 13, 2006

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 15.2-1210 of the Code of Virginia and to repeal § 15.2-1209 of the Code of Virginia, relating to hunting and the discharge of firearms.*

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 15.2-1210 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 15.2-1210. Prohibiting hunting and the discharge of firearms in certain areas.

Any county may by ordinance prohibit all hunting with firearms or other weapons *and the discharge of firearms [ or arrows from bows ]* in, or within one-half mile of, any subdivision or other area of such county which, in the opinion of the governing body, is so heavily populated as to make such hunting dangerous to the inhabitants thereof. Any such ordinance shall clearly describe each area in which hunting *or the discharge of firearms [ or arrows from bows ]* is prohibited, and shall further provide that appropriate signs shall be erected designating the boundaries of such area. *However, no county shall adopt any ordinance, resolution, or motion that is more restrictive in the regulation of the discharge of firearms [ or arrows from bows ] than has been adopted for hunting with firearms or other weapons under this section. Any ordinance adopted after January 1, 1995, governing the discharge of firearms or hunting that is more restrictive than the provisions of this section shall be null and void.*

[ *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 outdoor shooting of firearms or arrows from bows or hunting shall provide an exemption for the killing of deer pursuant to § 29.1-529. ]

**2. That § 15.2-1209 of the Code of Virginia is repealed.**

ENGROSSED

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