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SENATE BILL NO. 367

Offered January 13, 2016

Prefiled January 11, 2016

A BILL to amend and reenact § 29.1-528 of the Code of Virginia, relating to hunting of coyotes; county or city ordinances.

Patron—McDougle

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 29.1-528 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 29.1-528. Board to develop model ordinances for hunting with firearms; counties or cities may adopt.

A. The Board shall promulgate adopt regulations establishing model ordinances for hunting with firearms that may be adopted by counties or cities. Such model ordinances developed by the Board shall address such items as, but are not limited to, including firearm caliber; type of firearm (e.g., including rifle, shotgun, or muzzleloader); and ; type of ammunition; and the hunting of groundhogs or coyotes.

B. The governing body of any county or city may, by ordinance, (i) prohibit hunting in such county or city with a shotgun loaded with slugs, or with a rifle of a caliber larger than .22 rimfire. However, such ordinance may; (ii) permit the hunting of groundhogs with a rifle of a caliber larger than .22 rimfire between March 1 and August 31. Such ordinance may also; (iii) permit the use of muzzle-loading rifles during the prescribed open seasons for the hunting of game species. Any such ordinance may also; (iv) specify permissible type types of ammunition to be used for such hunting in the county or city; or (v) permit the hunting of coyotes.

C. No such ordinance shall be enforceable unless the governing body notifies the Director by registered mail prior to May 1 of the year in which the ordinance is to take effect.

D. In adopting an ordinance pursuant to the provisions of this section, the governing body of any county or city may provide that any person who violates the provisions of the ordinance shall be is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.

INTRODUCED

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