

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

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HOUSE BILL 939*

Short Title: DACS to Regulate Farmed Cervids. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Coates, Barbee, Starnes, Warner (Primary Sponsors);
Howard, McCombs, Mitchell, Preston, and Sexton.

Referred to: Agriculture.

April 8, 2003

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES TO REGULATE FARMED CERVIDS, TO CHANGE CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR QUALIFYING FOR CAPTIVITY LICENSES FOR CERTAIN DEER, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE INTRASTATE TRANSPORT OF CERTAIN DEER.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Article 49H of Chapter 106 of the General Statutes reads as rewritten:

"Article 49H.

"Production and Sale of ~~Fallow Deer and Red Deer.~~ Farmed Cervids.

§ 106-549.97. Regulation of ~~fallow deer and red deer~~ farmed cervids by Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; certain authority of North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission not affected; ~~definitions affected.~~

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that farmed cervids are treated as domesticated livestock in order to promote the development and improvement of the farmed cervid industry in the State. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall regulate the ~~production~~ possession, production, transportation, and sale of ~~fallow deer and red deer~~ farmed cervids for food ~~purposes.~~ purposes or for other commercial or noncommercial purposes. The Board of Agriculture shall adopt rules for the ~~production~~ possession, production, transportation, and sale of ~~fallow deer and red deer for food purposes~~ farmed cervids in such a manner as to provide for close supervision of any person, firm, or corporation ~~producing and possessing, producing, transporting, or selling fallow deer or red deer, or both, for food purposes.~~ farmed cervids.

(b) ~~The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall regulate the possession and transportation of live fallow deer and live red deer and may adopt rules~~

1 to prevent the release or escape of fallow deer or red deer, or both, upon finding that it is
2 necessary to protect live fallow deer or live red deer, or both, or to prevent damage to
3 the native deer population or its habitat.

4 (c) The following definitions apply in this Article:

5 (1) Fallow deer.—A member of the *Dama dama* species.

6 (2) Red deer.—A member of the *Cervus elephus* species.

7 For purposes of this Article, 'farmed cervid' means any member of the Cervidae
8 family, other than white-tailed deer, elk, mule deer, or black-tailed deer, that is born and
9 raised in captivity.

10 **"§ 106-549.98. Inspection fees.**

11 The Commissioner may establish a fee at an hourly rate to be paid by the owner,
12 proprietor, or operator of each slaughtering, meat-canning, salting, packing, rendering,
13 or similar establishment for the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred in the
14 inspection of ~~fallow deer~~ farmed cervids as required by Article 49B of Chapter 106 of
15 the General Statutes. ~~The Commissioner may establish a fee at an hourly rate to be paid~~
16 ~~by the owner, proprietor, or operator of each slaughtering, meat-canning, salting,~~
17 ~~packing, rendering, or similar establishment for the purpose of defraying the expenses~~
18 ~~incurred in the inspection of red deer as required by Article 49B of Chapter 106 of the~~
19 ~~General Statutes."~~

20 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 113-129(1b) reads as rewritten:

21 "(1b) Big Game. – Bear, wild boar, wild turkey, and deer, not to include
22 ~~fallow deer or red deer raised for production and sale~~ farmed cervids,
23 defined in G.S. 106-549.97, raised for food purposes or raised for other
24 commercial or noncommercial purposes under G.S. 106-549.97."

25 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 113-129(7c) reads as rewritten:

26 "(7c) Game Animals. – Bear, fox, rabbit, squirrel, wild boar, and ~~deer, not to~~
27 ~~include fallow deer or red deer raised for production and sale under~~
28 ~~G.S. 106-549.97;~~ deer; bobcat, opossum, and raccoon except when
29 trapped in accordance with provisions relating to fur-bearing animals.
30 Game animals does not include farmed cervids, defined in G.S.
31 106-549.97, raised for food purposes or raised for other commercial or
32 noncommercial purposes under G.S. 106-549.97."

33 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 106-549.15(14) reads as rewritten:

34 "(14) 'Meat food product' means any product capable of use as human food
35 that is made wholly or in part from any meat or other portion of the
36 carcass of any cattle, sheep, swine, goats, bison, ~~fallow deer, or red~~
37 ~~deer, or farmed cervids,~~ excepting products that contain meat or other
38 portions of such carcasses only in a relatively small proportion or
39 historically have not been considered by consumers as products of the
40 meat food industry, and that are exempted from definition as a meat
41 food product by the Board under such conditions as it may prescribe to
42 assure that the meat or other portions of such carcasses contained in
43 such product are not adulterated and that such products are not
44 represented as meat food products. This term as applied to food

1 products of equines shall have a meaning comparable to that provided
2 in this subdivision with respect to cattle, sheep, swine, goats, and
3 bison."

4 **SECTION 5.** G.S. 106-549.17 reads as rewritten:

5 **"§ 106-549.17. Inspection of animals before slaughter; humane methods of**
6 **slaughtering.**

7 (a) For the purpose of preventing the use in intrastate commerce, as hereinafter
8 provided, of meat and meat food products which are adulterated, the Commissioner
9 shall cause to be made, by inspectors appointed for that purpose, an examination and
10 inspection of all cattle, sheep, swine, goats, ~~fallow deer, red deer,~~ farmed cervids, bison,
11 horses, mules, and other equines before they shall be allowed to enter into any
12 slaughtering, packing, meat-canning, rendering, or similar establishment in this State in
13 which slaughtering and preparation of meat and meat food products of such animals are
14 conducted for intrastate commerce; and all cattle, sheep, swine, goats, ~~fallow deer, red~~
15 ~~deer,~~ farmed cervids, bison, horses, mules, and other equines found on such inspection
16 to show symptoms of disease shall be set apart and slaughtered separately from all other
17 cattle, sheep, swine, goats, ~~fallow deer, red deer,~~ farmed cervids, bison, horses, mules,
18 or other equines, and when so slaughtered, the carcasses of said cattle, sheep, swine,
19 goats, ~~fallow deer, red deer,~~ farmed cervids, bison, horses, mules, or other equines shall
20 be subject to a careful examination and inspection, all as provided by the rules and
21 regulations to be prescribed by the Board as herein provided for.

22 (b) For the purpose of preventing the inhumane slaughtering of livestock, the
23 Commissioner shall cause to be made, by inspectors appointed for that purpose, an
24 examination and inspection of the method by which cattle, sheep, swine, goats, ~~fallow~~
25 ~~deer, red deer,~~ farmed cervids, bison, horses, mules, and other equines are slaughtered
26 and handled in connection with slaughter in the slaughtering establishments inspected
27 under this law. The Commissioner may refuse to provide inspection to a new
28 slaughtering establishment or may cause inspection to be temporarily suspended at a
29 slaughtering establishment if the Commissioner finds that any cattle, sheep, swine,
30 goats, ~~fallow deer, red deer,~~ farmed cervids, bison, horses, mules, or other equines have
31 been slaughtered or handled in connection with slaughter at such establishment by any
32 method not in accordance with subsection (c) of this section until the establishment
33 furnishes assurances satisfactory to the Commissioner that all slaughtering and handling
34 in connection with slaughter of livestock shall be in accordance with such a method.

35 (c) Either of the following two methods of slaughtering of livestock and handling
36 of livestock in connection with slaughter are found to be humane:

- 37 (1) In the case of cattle, calves, ~~fallow deer, red deer,~~ farmed cervids,
38 bison, horses, mules, sheep, swine, and other livestock, all animals are
39 rendered insensible to pain by a single blow or gunshot or an electrical,
40 chemical, or other means that is rapid and effective, before being
41 shackled, hoisted, thrown, cast, or cut; or
42 (2) By slaughtering in accordance with the ritual requirements of the
43 Jewish faith or any other religious faith that prescribes a method of
44 slaughter whereby the animal suffers loss of consciousness by anemia

1 of the brain caused by the simultaneous and instantaneous severance of
2 the carotid arteries with a sharp instrument and handling in connection
3 with such slaughtering."

4 **SECTION 6.** G.S. 106-549.18 reads as rewritten:

5 **"§ 106-549.18. Inspection; stamping carcass.**

6 For the purposes hereinbefore set forth the Commissioner shall cause to be made by
7 inspectors appointed for that purpose, as hereinafter provided, a post mortem
8 examination and inspection of the carcasses and parts thereof of all cattle, sheep, swine,
9 goats, ~~fallow deer, red deer,~~ farmed cervids, bison, horses, mules, and other equines,
10 capable of use as human food, to be prepared at any slaughtering, meat-canning, salting,
11 packing, rendering, or similar establishment in this State in which such articles are
12 prepared for intrastate commerce; and the carcasses and parts thereof of all such animals
13 found to be not adulterated shall be marked, stamped, tagged, or labeled, as 'Inspected
14 and Passed'; and said inspectors shall label, mark, stamp, or tag as 'Inspected and
15 Condemned,' all carcasses and parts thereof of animals found to be adulterated; and all
16 carcasses and parts thereof thus inspected and condemned shall be destroyed for food
17 purposes by the said establishment in the presence of an inspector, and the
18 Commissioner or his authorized representative may remove inspectors from any such
19 establishment which fails to so destroy any such condemned carcass or part thereof, and
20 said inspectors, after said first inspection shall, when they deem it necessary, reinspect
21 said carcasses or parts thereof to determine whether since the first inspection the same
22 have become adulterated and if any carcass or any part thereof shall, upon examination
23 and inspection subsequent to the first examination and inspection, be found to be
24 adulterated, it shall be destroyed for food purposes by the said establishment in the
25 presence of an inspector, and the Commissioner or his authorized representative may
26 remove inspectors from any establishment which fails to so destroy any such
27 condemned carcass or part thereof."

28 **SECTION 7.** G.S. 106-549.19 reads as rewritten:

29 **"§ 106-549.19. Application of Article; place of inspection.**

30 The foregoing provisions shall apply to all carcasses or parts of carcasses of cattle,
31 sheep, swine, goats, ~~fallow deer, red deer,~~ farmed cervids, bison, horses, mules, and
32 other equines or the meat or meat products thereof, capable of use as human food,
33 which may be brought into any slaughtering, meat-canning, salting, packing, rendering,
34 or similar establishment, where inspection under this Article is maintained, and such
35 examination and inspection shall be had before the said carcasses or parts thereof shall
36 be allowed to enter into any department wherein the same are to be treated and prepared
37 for meat food products; and the foregoing provisions shall also apply to all such
38 products which, after having been issued from any such slaughtering, meat-canning,
39 salting, packing, rendering, or similar establishment, shall be returned to the same or to
40 any similar establishment where such inspection is maintained. The Commissioner or
41 his authorized representative may limit the entry of carcasses, part of carcasses, meat
42 and meat food products, and other materials into any establishment at which inspection
43 under this Article is maintained, under such conditions as he may prescribe to assure

1 that allowing the entry of such articles into such inspected establishments will be
2 consistent with the purposes of this and the subsequent Article."

3 **SECTION 8.** G.S. 106-549.22 reads as rewritten:

4 **"§ 106-549.22. Rules and regulations of Board.**

5 The Commissioner or his authorized representative shall cause to be made, by
6 experts in sanitation, or by other competent inspectors, such inspection of all
7 slaughtering, meat-canning, salting, packing, rendering, or similar establishments in
8 which cattle, sheep, swine, goats, ~~fallow deer, red deer,~~ farmed cervids, bison, horses,
9 mules, and other equines are slaughtered and the meat and meat food products thereof
10 are prepared for intrastate commerce as may be necessary to inform himself concerning
11 the sanitary conditions of the same, and the Board shall prescribe the rules and
12 regulations of sanitation under which such establishments shall be maintained; and
13 where the sanitary conditions of any such establishment are such that the meat or meat
14 food products are rendered adulterated, the Commissioner or his authorized
15 representative shall refuse to allow said meat or meat food products to be labeled,
16 marked, stamped, or tagged as 'North Carolina Department of Agriculture and
17 Consumer Services Inspected and Passed.' "

18 **SECTION 9.** G.S. 549.23 reads as rewritten:

19 **"§ 106-549.23. Prohibited slaughter, sale and transportation.**

20 No person, firm, or corporation shall, with respect to any cattle, sheep, swine, goats,
21 ~~fallow deer, red deer,~~ farmed cervids, bison, horses, mules, or other equines, or any
22 carcasses, parts of carcasses, meat or meat food products of any such animals:

- 23 (1) Slaughter any of these animals or prepare any of these articles which
24 are capable of use as human food, at any establishment preparing any
25 such articles for intrastate commerce except in compliance with the
26 requirements of this and the subsequent Article;
- 27 (2) Slaughter, or handle in connection with slaughter, any such animals in
28 any manner not in accordance with G.S. 106-549.17(c) of this Article;
- 29 (3) Sell, transport, offer for sale or transportation, or receive for
30 transportation, in intrastate commerce:
- 31 a. Any of these articles which (i) are capable of use as human food
32 and (ii) are adulterated or misbranded at the time of sale,
33 transportation, offer for sale or transportation, or receipt for
34 transportation; or
- 35 b. Any articles required to be inspected under this Article unless
36 they have been so inspected and passed; or
- 37 (4) Do, with respect to any of these articles which are capable of use as
38 human food, any act while they are being transported in intrastate
39 commerce or held for sale after such transportation, which is intended
40 to cause or has the effect of causing the articles to be adulterated or
41 misbranded."

42 **SECTION 10.** G.S. 106-549.25 reads as rewritten:

43 **"§ 106-549.25. Slaughter, sale and transportation of equine carcasses.**

1 No person, firm, or corporation shall sell, transport, offer for sale or transportation,
2 or receive for transportation, in intrastate commerce, any carcasses of horses, mules, or
3 other equines or parts of such carcasses, or the meat or meat food products thereof,
4 unless they are plainly and conspicuously marked or labeled or otherwise identified as
5 required by regulations prescribed by the Board to show the kinds of animals from
6 which they were derived. When required by the Commissioner or his authorized
7 representative, with respect to establishments at which inspection is maintained under
8 this Article, such animals and their carcasses, parts thereof, meat and meat food
9 products shall be prepared in establishments separate from those in which cattle, sheep,
10 swine, ~~fallow deer, red deer,~~ farmed cervids, bison, or goats are slaughtered or their
11 carcasses, parts thereof, meats or meat food products are prepared."

12 **SECTION 11.** G.S. 106-549.26 reads as rewritten:

13 **"§ 106-549.26. Inspection of establishment; bribery of or malfeasance of inspector.**

14 The Commissioner or his authorized representative shall appoint from time to time
15 inspectors to make examination and inspection of all cattle, sheep, swine, goats, ~~fallow~~
16 ~~deer, red deer,~~ farmed cervids, bison, horses, mules, and other equines the inspection of
17 which is hereby provided for, and of all carcasses and parts thereof, and of all meats and
18 meat food products thereof, and of the sanitary conditions of all establishments in which
19 such meat and meat food products hereinbefore described are prepared; and said
20 inspectors shall refuse to stamp, mark, tag or label any carcass or any part thereof, or
21 meat food product therefrom, prepared in any establishment hereinbefore mentioned,
22 until the same shall have actually been inspected and found to be not adulterated; and
23 shall perform such other duties as are provided by this and the subsequent Article and
24 by the rules and regulations to be prescribed by said Board and said Board shall, from
25 time to time, make such rules and regulations as are necessary for the efficient
26 execution of the provisions of this and the subsequent Article, and all inspections and
27 examinations made under this Article shall be such and made in such manner as
28 described in the rules and regulations prescribed by said Board not inconsistent with the
29 provisions of this Article and as directed by the Commissioner or his authorized
30 representative. Any person, firm, or corporation, or any agent or employee of any
31 person, firm, or corporation, who shall give, pay, or offer, directly or indirectly, to any
32 inspector, or any other officer or employee of this State authorized to perform any of the
33 duties prescribed by this and the subsequent Article or by the rules and regulations of
34 the Board or by the Commissioner or his authorized representative any money or other
35 thing of value, with intent to influence said inspector, or other officer or employee of
36 this State in the discharge of any duty herein provided for, shall be deemed guilty of a
37 Class I felony which may include a fine not less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) nor
38 more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000); and any inspector, or other officer or
39 employee of this State authorized to perform any of the duties prescribed by this Article
40 who shall accept any money, gift, or other thing of value from any person, firm, or
41 corporation, or officers, agents, or employees thereof, given with intent to influence his
42 official action, or who shall receive or accept from any person, firm, or corporation
43 engaged in intrastate commerce any gift, money, or other thing of value given with any
44 purpose or intent whatsoever, shall be deemed guilty of a Class I felony and shall, upon

1 conviction thereof, be summarily discharged from office and may be punished by a fine
2 not less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) nor more than ten thousand dollars
3 (\$10,000)."

4 **SECTION 12.** G.S. 106-549.27(a) reads as rewritten:

5 "(a) The provisions of this Article requiring inspection of the slaughter of animals
6 and the preparation of the carcasses, parts thereof, meat and meat food products at
7 establishments conducting such operations shall not

8 (1) Apply to the slaughtering by any person of animals of his own raising,
9 and the preparation by him and transportation in intrastate commerce
10 of the carcasses, parts thereof, meat and meat food products of such
11 animals exclusively for use by him and members of his household and
12 his nonpaying guests and employees; nor

13 (2) To the custom slaughter by any person, firm, or corporation of cattle,
14 sheep, swine, ~~fallow deer, red deer~~, farmed cervids, bison, or goats
15 delivered by the owner thereof for such slaughter, and the preparation
16 by such slaughterer and transportation in intrastate commerce of the
17 carcasses, parts thereof, meat and meat food products of such animals,
18 exclusively for use, in the household of such owner, by him, and
19 members of his household and his nonpaying guests and employees:
20 Provided, that all carcasses, parts thereof, meat and meat food products
21 derived from custom slaughter shall be identified as required by the
22 Commissioner, during all phases of slaughtering, chilling, cooling,
23 freezing, packing, meat canning, rendering, preparation, storage and
24 transportation; provided further, that the custom slaughterer does not
25 engage in the business of buying or selling any carcasses, parts thereof,
26 meat or meat food products of any cattle, sheep, swine, goats, ~~fallow~~
27 ~~deer, red deer~~, farmed cervids, bison, or equines, capable of use as
28 human food, unless the carcasses, parts thereof, meat or meat food
29 products have been inspected and passed and are identified as having
30 been inspected and passed by the Commissioner or the United States
31 Department of Agriculture."

32 **SECTION 13.** G.S. 106-549.28 reads as rewritten:

33 **"§ 106-549.28. Regulation of storage of meat.**

34 The Board may by regulations prescribe conditions under which carcasses, parts of
35 carcasses, meat, and meat food products of cattle, sheep, swine, goats, ~~fallow deer, red~~
36 ~~deer~~, farmed cervids, bison, horses, mules, or other equines, capable of use as human
37 food, shall be stored or otherwise handled by any person, firm, or corporation engaged
38 in the business of buying, selling, freezing, storing, or transporting, in or for intrastate
39 commerce, such articles, whenever the Board deems such action necessary to assure that
40 such articles will not be adulterated or misbranded when delivered to the consumer.
41 Willful violation of any such regulation is a Class 2 misdemeanor."

42 **SECTION 14.** G.S. 113-272.5(c) reads as rewritten:

43 **"§ 113-272.5. Captivity license.**

1 (a) In the interests of humane treatment of wild animals and wild birds that are
2 crippled, tame, or otherwise unfit for immediate release into their natural habitat, the
3 Wildlife Resources Commission may license qualified individuals to hold at a specified
4 location one or more of any particular species of wild animal or wild bird alive in
5 captivity. Before issuing this license, the Executive Director must satisfy himself that
6 issuance of the license is appropriate under the objectives of this Subchapter, and that
7 the wild animal or wild bird was not acquired unlawfully or merely as a pet. Upon
8 refusing to issue the captivity license, the Executive Director may either take possession
9 of the wild animal or wild bird for appropriate disposition or issue a captivity permit
10 under G.S. 113-274(c)(1b) for a limited period until the holder makes proper disposition
11 of the wild animal or wild bird.

12 (b) Unless a shorter time is set for a license upon its issuance under the
13 provisions of subsection (c), captivity licenses are annual licenses issued beginning
14 January 1 each year and running until the following December 31. This license is issued
15 upon payment of five dollars (\$5.00) to the Wildlife Resources Commission. An
16 increase in pen size or an increase in the number of pens for the purpose of increasing
17 the holding capacity of a licensed facility shall not be a basis for refusing to reissue a
18 captivity license for deer that are game animals, as defined in G.S. 113-129.

19 (c) The Wildlife Resources Commission may require standards of caging and
20 care and reports to and supervision by employees of the Wildlife Resources
21 Commission as necessary to insure humane treatment and furtherance of the objectives
22 of this Subchapter. The Executive Director in implementing the provisions of this
23 section may administratively impose through responsible agents and employees
24 restrictions upon the mode of captivity that he deems necessary, including prescribing
25 methods of treatment and handling designed, if possible, to enable the wild animal or
26 wild bird to become self-sufficient and requiring that the wild animal or wild bird be set
27 free when self-sufficiency is attained. To this end, the Executive Director may issue the
28 captivity license with an expiration date earlier than December 31 and may also act to
29 terminate any captivity license earlier than the expiration date for good cause. The
30 standards for caging and care adopted pursuant to this section shall satisfy all of the
31 following:

- 32 (1) When a fence is required for deer that are game animals, as defined in
33 G.S. 113-129, the fence shall not be required to exceed a height of
34 eight feet.
35 (2) When a building is required to shelter deer that are game animals, as
36 defined in G.S. 113-129, the floor of the building shall not be required
37 to be made of wood.
38 (3) When application for a tag is required for a newborn deer that is a
39 game animal, as defined in G.S. 113-129, the application shall not
40 request the sex of the newborn.

41 (d) Any substantial deviation from reasonable requirements imposed by rule or
42 administratively under the authority of this section renders possession of the wild
43 animal or wild bird unlawful.

44 (e) No captivity license may be issued for any cougar (*Felis concolor*), except to:

- 1 (1) A bona fide publicly supported zoo.
2 (2) An educational or scientific research institution.
3 (3) An individual who lawfully possessed the cougar on June 29, 1977.
4 The license may not be granted, however, for possession of a cougar
5 within a municipality ~~which~~that prohibits such possession by
6 ordinance.
7 (4) An individual who holds a cougar without caging under conditions
8 simulating a natural habitat, the development of which is in accord
9 with plans and specifications developed by the holder and approved by
10 the Wildlife Resources Commission.
11 (f) The licensing provisions of this section apply to black bears held in captivity,
12 but, to the extent that it differs from this section, Article 2 of Chapter 19A of the
13 General Statutes governs the keeping of black bears in captivity."

14 **SECTION 15.** G.S. 113-274(c) reads as rewritten:

15 "(c) The Wildlife Resources Commission may issue the following permits:

16 ...

- 17 (2) Transportation Permit. – The Wildlife Resources Commission may
18 require the use of transportation permits by persons required to be
19 licensed under this Article, or by persons and individuals exempt from
20 license requirements, while transporting wildlife resources within the
21 State – as necessary to discourage unlawful taking or dealing in
22 wildlife resources and to control and promote the orderly and
23 systematic transportation of wildlife resources within, into, through,
24 and out of the State. Transportation permits may be issued for wildlife
25 transported either dead or alive, in accordance with restrictions that
26 may be reasonably imposed. When convenient, rules or administrative
27 directives may require the retention and use of an invoice or
28 memorandum of sale, or the license or permit authorizing the taking or
29 acquisition of the wildlife resources, as a transportation permit. When
30 circumstances warrant, however, a separate additional transportation
31 permit may be required. Any substantial deviation from reasonable
32 requirements imposed by rule or administratively under the authority
33 of this section renders the transportation of the wildlife resources
34 unlawful. Upon proper application, the Wildlife Resources
35 Commission shall issue permits authorizing any person or facility that
36 has obtained a captivity license under G.S. 113-272.5 to transport
37 within the State deer that are game animals, as defined in G.S.
38 113-129, to another person or another facility that has obtained a
39 captivity license under G.S. 113-272.5.

40"

41 **SECTION 16.** Notwithstanding any rule or law to the contrary, any person
42 who, as of May 17, 2002, held deer that are game animals, as defined in G.S. 113-129,
43 as amended by Section 3 of this act, may apply no later than July 1, 2004, for a captivity
44 license under G.S. 113-272.5, as amended by Section 14 of this act.

1 **SECTION 17.** Except for any rule adopted by the Department of Agriculture
2 and Consumer Services, any rule regulating farmed cervids, as defined in G.S.
3 106-549.97, as amended by Section 1 of this act, is repealed.

4 **SECTION 18.** This act is effective when it becomes law.