A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE RETRIEVAL OF KILLED OR WOUNDED BIG GAME
USING A SINGLE DOG ON A LEASH.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 113-291.1 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(k) If a hunter kills or wounds a big game animal during the hunting hours authorized
by subsection (a) of this section, the hunter may use a portable light source and a single dog on
a leash to assist the hunter in retrieving the dead or wounded big game animal, and may
dispatch a wounded big game animal using only a .22-caliber rimfire pistol, archery equipment,
or a handgun otherwise legal for that hunting season. Pursuit and retrieval under this subsection
may occur between the hours of one-half hour after sunset and 11:00 p.m. if necessary, but
such pursuit and retrieval may not be accomplished using a motorized vehicle.

For purposes of this section, the term 'dispatch' means the quick and humane killing of a
wounded animal to prevent further suffering through infection, starvation, or other distress in
the wild."

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective October 1, 2011.