

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE BILL 840

Short Title: Require Permit for Ginseng Harvesting. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Ager.

For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

April 18, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO FORBID THE HARVESTING OF WILD GINSENG WITHOUT A
3 HARVESTING PERMIT ISSUED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
4 AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 106-202.19(a) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

7 "(5a) To harvest ginseng from the wild outside of a harvesting season as provided
8 by the Board or without holding a currently valid State permit to collect wild
9 ginseng. The Board may charge a reasonable fee not to exceed twenty-five
10 dollars (\$25.00) annually for a permit under this subdivision. The Board may
11 enter into memoranda of understanding with law enforcement agencies,
12 including special peace officers of the Department of Natural and Cultural
13 Resources, the Wildlife Resources Commission, and the Department of
14 Environmental Quality, to provide for enforcement of this subdivision on both
15 public and private lands."

16 **SECTION 2.** The North Carolina Plant Conservation Board shall issue rules to
17 implement this act. The Board shall include the following in its rules:

- 18 (1) A requirement that the ginseng collection permit include physical identifying
19 information on the permittee or equivalent information to enable law
20 enforcement to determine if the permit is being used by persons other than the
21 permittee.
22 (2) A program to allow ginseng dealers permitted under G.S. 106-202.19(6) to
23 sell ginseng harvest permits and receive a portion of the fee authorized by this
24 act for each permit sold.

25 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law. The North Carolina Plant
26 Conservation Board may issue temporary rules to implement this act and shall propose permanent
27 rules no later than April 1, 2020.

