

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2013

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SENATE DRS35030-LL-55A (01/25)

Short Title: The Opossum Right-to-Work Act. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators J. Davis and Bingham (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF CAPTIVITY  
3 LICENSES AND PERMITS BY THE WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 113-272.5(a) reads as rewritten:

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

17 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 113-274(c) reads as rewritten:

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

19 ...

20 (1b) Captivity Permit. – Authorizes the possession of live wildlife that may  
21 lawfully be permitted to be retained alive, in accordance with governing  
22 rules of the Wildlife Resources Commission. This permit may not substitute  
23 for any required collection license or captivity license, but may be  
24 temporarily issued for possession of wild animals or wild birds for scientific,  
25 educational, or exhibition purposes pending action on a captivity license or  
26 following its denial or termination. If this permit is issued for fish to be held  
27 indefinitely, the Wildlife Resources Commission may provide for periodic  
28 renewals of the permit, at least once each three years, to insure a review of  
29 the circumstances and conditions under which fish are kept. Wild animals  
30 and wild birds kept temporarily in captivity under this permit must be  
31 humanely treated and in accordance with any stipulations in the permit, but  
32 the standards of caging and care applicable to species kept under the  
33 captivity license do not apply unless specified in the permit. Any substantial  
34 deviation from reasonable requirements imposed by rule or administratively



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1                           under the authority of this section renders the possession of the wildlife  
2                           unlawful.  
3                           ...."  
4                           **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.