

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

H.B. 865
Apr 9, 2025
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40415-MH-77

Short Title: Clarify Animal Welfare Statutes. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Harrison.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE DANGEROUS DOG LAWS TO PERMIT A CASE-BY-CASE
3 DETERMINATION AS TO WHETHER A DOG TRAINED FOR DOG FIGHTING IS
4 DANGEROUS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 67-4.1 reads as rewritten:

7 "**§ 67-4.1. Definitions and procedures.**

8 (a) As used in this Article, unless the context clearly requires otherwise and except as
9 modified in subsection (b) of this section, the term:

10 (1) "Dangerous dog" means

11 ~~a.~~ A-a dog that:

12 ~~1-a.~~ Without provocation has killed or inflicted severe injury on a
13 person; or

14 ~~2-b.~~ Is determined by the person or Board designated by the county
15 or municipal authority responsible for animal control to be
16 potentially dangerous because the dog has engaged in one or
17 more of the behaviors listed in subdivision (2) of this
18 subsection.

19 ~~b.~~ Any dog owned or harbored primarily or in part for the purpose of dog
20 fighting, or any dog trained for dog fighting.

21"

22 **SECTION 1.(b)** G.S. 67-4.5 reads as rewritten:

23 "**§ 67-4.5. Local ordinances.**

24 Nothing in this Article shall be construed to prevent a city or county from adopting or
25 enforcing its own program for control of dangerous ~~dogs~~dogs consistent with this Article."

26 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2025.

