

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2017

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SENATE BILL 348

Short Title: Adopt Bobwhite Quail as State Game Bird. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators McInnis, Lowe (Primary Sponsors); Brock and B. Jackson.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 22, 2017

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ADOPT THE BOBWHITE QUAIL AS THE OFFICIAL GAME BIRD OF THE  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, the Northern bobwhite or bobwhite quail is found throughout the State of  
North Carolina but most common in the eastern portion of the State; and

Whereas, the male bobwhite quail is known for its whistle during mating season that  
sounds like "bobwhite"; and

Whereas, bobwhite quail live on the ground, where they eat seeds, fruit, and insects;  
and

Whereas, bobwhite quail are related to turkeys and chickens and are considered  
game birds in North Carolina; and

Whereas, the hunting season for bobwhite quail usually runs between October and  
February; and

Whereas, hunters use bird dogs to locate bobwhite quail which are often found in  
small flocks known as coveys; and

Whereas, the State of North Carolina does not have an official State game bird;

Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Chapter 145 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new  
section to read:

**"§ 145-49. State game bird.**

The Northern bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*) or bobwhite quail is adopted as the official  
game bird of the State of North Carolina."

**SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

