

To the XXXXXX County Board of Commissioners:

I am a resident and a property owner. I am requesting the Board of Commissioners consider and support a local law to allow fox trapping and hunting.

Justification and data to support this bill include:

1. The NC Wildlife Resources Commission 2012 Fox and Coyote Populations Study Report to the NC General Assembly recommended expanding trapping opportunities on foxes. Allowing trapping of foxes during the statewide furbearer trapping season will increase the harvest of coyotes.
2. Counties without a fox trapping season are a barrier to coyote trapping because trappers have to release any fox they catch so there is less incentive to trap coyotes.
3. Harvest data shows counties with local fox laws have increased harvest of coyotes: 61% higher in counties with a fox trapping season than in counties with no trapping season.
4. Landowners Rights: a trapper is on the property because the landowner wants the trapper to be there. Landowners should be able to manage fox and coyote conflicts on their land.
5. Trapping is highly regulated where trappers follow strict rules enforced by the state. State law requires written landowner permission to set traps and trapper's must have name and address on all traps.

Implementing this local fox trapping and hunting bill will proactively increase options available to landowners to prevent or resolve fox and coyote related conflicts.

Below is a draft bill that will accomplish this as well as share the resource with hunters and trappers. I would appreciate the board actively supporting this with our state Representatives John Doe and Jane Doe and Senator John Doe.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2018**

March 1, 2018

**SESSION LAW 2018-
HOUSE or SENATE BILL**

**AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A SEASON FOR TAKING COYOTES AND FOXES
WITH WEAPONS AND BY TRAPPING IN XXXXXX COUNTY**

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, there is an open season for taking coyotes and foxes with weapons and by trapping during the trapping season set by the Wildlife Resources Commission each year, with no tagging requirements prior to or after sale.

SECTION 2. No bag limit applies to coyotes and foxes taken under this act.

SECTION 3. This act applies only to XXXXXX County.

SECTION 4. This act becomes effective October 1, 2018.