



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

**Proposed Bill No. 5315**

LCO No. 1118



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Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:

REP. REDDINGTON-HUGHES, 66th Dist.

REP. ANDERSON, 62nd Dist.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE REGULATION AND CONTROL OF THE  
BLACK BEAR POPULATION IN THE STATE.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 That the general statutes be amended to require the Department of
- 2 Energy and Environmental Protection to: (1) Conduct a study, within
- 3 available resources, to estimate the population and growth rate of bears
- 4 in the state, and to estimate the biological and cultural carrying
- 5 capacities by region, and to update such estimates each year; (2) publish
- 6 regulations to prohibit the unintentional feeding of black bears; (3)
- 7 educate the public on proactive measures to prevent human-bear
- 8 conflict; and (4) establish a hunting season to maintain the bear
- 9 population within the biological and cultural carrying capacity in each
- 10 region of the state.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To establish a bear management framework intended to ensure a healthy bear population, minimize conflicts between bears and humans and allow for limited regulated hunting of black bear.