

1 **Senate Bill No. 71**

2 (By Senators Sypolt, Jenkins, McCabe, Carmichael, Cole and Nohe)

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4 [Introduced January 8, 2014; referred to the Committee on Natural  
5 Resources; and then to the Committee on the Judiciary.]

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10 A BILL to amend and reenact §19-25-2 of the Code of West Virginia,  
11 1931, as amended, relating to limiting a landowner's civil  
12 liability for injuries that may occur to a person or property  
13 on the landowner's property or surrounding property while  
14 hunting.

15 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

16 That §19-25-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,  
17 be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

18 **ARTICLE 25. LIMITING LIABILITY OF LANDOWNERS.**

19 **§19-25-2. Limiting duty of landowner generally.**

20 (a) Subject to the provisions of section four of this article,  
21 an owner of land owes no duty of care to keep the premises safe for  
22 entry or use by others for recreational or wildlife propagation  
23 purposes or to give any warning of a dangerous or hazardous

1 condition, use, structure or activity on such premises to persons  
2 entering for such purposes.

3 (b) Subject to the provisions of ~~section four of~~ this article,  
4 an owner of land who either directly or indirectly invites or  
5 permits without charge, as that term is defined in section five of  
6 this article, any person to use ~~such~~ his or her property for  
7 recreational or wildlife propagation purposes does not thereby:  
8 ~~(a)~~ (1) Extend any assurance that the premises are safe for any  
9 purpose; ~~or (b)~~ (2) confer upon such persons the legal status of an  
10 invitee or licensee to whom a duty of care is owed; ~~or (c)~~ (3)  
11 assume responsibility for or incur liability for any injury to  
12 person or property caused by an act or omission of ~~such~~ the  
13 persons; or (4) assume responsibility for or incur liability for  
14 any injury to person or property, wherever the person or property  
15 is located, caused while hunting.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to limit a landowner's civil liability for injuries that may occur to person or property on the landowner's property or surrounding property while hunting.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.