

Senate Bill No. 2

(By Senators Sypolt, Barnes, Blair, Stollings, D. Hall, McCabe,
Williams, Cole and Carmichael)

[Introduced February 13, 2013; referred to the Committee on
Natural Resources; and then to the Committee on the Judiciary.]

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

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

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

ARTICLE 25. LIMITING LIABILITY OF LANDOWNERS.

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

(a) Subject to the provisions of section four of this article,
an owner of land owes no duty of care to keep the premises safe for
entry or use by others for recreational or wildlife propagation

1 purposes or to give any warning of a dangerous or hazardous
2 condition, use, structure or activity on such premises to persons
3 entering for such purposes.

4 (b) Subject to the provisions of ~~section four~~ of this article,
5 an owner of land who either directly or indirectly invites or
6 permits without charge, as that term is defined in section five of
7 this article, any person to use ~~such~~ his or her property for
8 recreational or wildlife propagation purposes does not thereby:
9 ~~(a)~~ (1) Extend any assurance that the premises are safe for any
10 purpose; ~~or (b)~~ (2) confer upon such persons the legal status of an
11 invitee or licensee to whom a duty of care is owed; ~~or (c)~~ (3)
12 assume responsibility for or incur liability for any injury to
13 person or property caused by an act or omission of ~~such~~ the
14 persons; or (4) assume responsibility for or incur liability for
15 any injury to person or property, wherever the person or property
16 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.