

## Bill would restrict hunting at Lake Keowee

By Kirk Brown

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ANDERSON — Hunting migratory waterfowl within 200 yards of homes on Lake Keowee would be illegal under provisions of a bill that advanced Wednesday in the South Carolina House of Representatives.

The purpose of the bill is to protect homeowners on the man-made reservoir that Duke Energy created more than 40 years ago. Similar restrictions are enforced on some other waterways throughout the state, including Lake Greenwood, Lake Marion and Lake Murray.

With today's high-powered weapons, "it gets a little dicey" when hunters armed with shotguns get too close to homes, said Rep. Ted Vick. The Chesterfield Democrat is chairman of the House subcommittee that approved the bill Wednesday.

The measure will now go to the House Agricultural, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee for consideration.

Rep. Bill Sandifer, an Oconee County Republican who lives on Lake Keowee, said he sponsored the bill in a response to concerns voiced by a constituent.

The 200-yard buffer "passes the test of reasonableness," Sandifer said.

Violators would be charged with a misdemeanor. They could face a fine of up to \$200 or a jail sentence of up to 30 days.

