

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2007 and 2008 HB0151

Introduced 1/19/2007, by Rep. Mike Bost

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

520 ILCS 5/3.2

from Ch. 61, par. 3.2

Amends the Wildlife Code. Eliminates the hunting license fee for veterans and active-duty military members who hold a Firearm Owner's Identification Card.

LRB095 03963 CMK 23996 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

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1 AN ACT concerning wildlife.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The Wildlife Code is amended by changing Section 3.2 as follows:

(520 ILCS 5/3.2) (from Ch. 61, par. 3.2)

7 Sec. 3.2. Hunting license; application; instruction. 8 Before the Department or any county, city, village, township, 9 incorporated town clerk or his duly designated agent or any other person authorized or designated by the Department to 10 issue hunting licenses shall issue a hunting license to any 11 person, the person shall file his application with the 12 13 Department or other party authorized to issue licenses on a 14 form provided by the Department and further give definite proof identity and place of legal residence. 15 Each clerk 16 designating agents to issue licenses and stamps shall furnish 17 the Department, within 10 days following the appointment, the names and mailing addresses of the agents. Each clerk or his 18 duly designated agent shall be authorized to sell licenses and 19 stamps only within the territorial area for which he was 20 21 elected or appointed. No duly designated agent is authorized to 22 furnish licenses or stamps for issuance by any other business establishment. Each application shall be executed and sworn to 23

and shall set forth the name and description of the applicant and place of residence.

No hunting license shall be issued to any person born on or after January 1, 1980 unless he presents the person authorized to issue the license evidence that he has held a hunting license issued by the State of Illinois or another state in a prior year, or a certificate of competency as provided in this Section. Persons under 16 years of age may be issued a Lifetime Hunting or Sportsmen's Combination License as provided under Section 20-45 of the Fish and Aquatic Life Code but shall not be entitled to hunt unless they have a certificate of competency as provided in this Section and they shall have the certificate in their possession while hunting.

The Department of Natural Resources shall authorize personnel of the Department or certified volunteer instructors to conduct courses, of not less than 10 hours in length, in firearms and hunter safety, which may include training in bow and arrow safety, at regularly specified intervals throughout the State. Persons successfully completing the course shall receive a certificate of competency. The Department of Natural Resources may further cooperate with any reputable association or organization in establishing courses if the organization has as one of its objectives the promotion of safety in the handling of firearms or bow and arrow.

The Department of Natural Resources shall designate any person found by it to be competent to give instruction in the

handling of firearms, hunter safety, and bow and arrow. The persons so appointed shall give the course of instruction and upon the successful completion shall issue to the person instructed a certificate of competency in the safe handling of firearms, hunter safety, and bow and arrow. No charge shall be made for any course of instruction except for materials or ammunition consumed. The Department of Natural Resources shall furnish information on the requirements of hunter safety education programs to be distributed free of charge to applicants for hunting licenses by the persons appointed and authorized to issue licenses. Funds for the conducting of firearms and hunter safety courses shall be taken from the fee charged for the Firearm Owners Identification Card.

The fee for a hunting license to hunt all species for a resident of Illinois is \$7. For residents age 65 or older, the fee is one-half of the fee charged for a hunting license to hunt all species for a resident of Illinois. Nonresidents shall be charged \$50 for a hunting license.

If a veteran or active-duty military member has a valid Firearm Owner's Identification Card, or the equivalent issued by another state, issued in his or her name, then there is no fee for a hunting license to hunt all species. In this Section:

"veteran" means a person who: (i) was a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, a member of the Illinois National Guard, or a member of any reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States; (ii) served on active duty; and (iii) was

- 1 honorably discharged; and "active-duty military member" means
- 2 a person who is currently serving on active duty as a member of
- 3 the Armed Forces of the United States, the Illinois National
- 4 Guard, or any reserve component of the Armed Forces of the
- 5 United States.
- Nonresidents may be issued a nonresident hunting license
- for a period not to exceed 10 consecutive days' hunting in the
- 8 State and shall be charged a fee of \$28.
- 9 A special nonresident hunting license authorizing a
- 10 nonresident to take game birds by hunting on a game breeding
- and hunting preserve area only, established under Section 3.27,
- shall be issued upon proper application being made and payment
- of a fee equal to that for a resident hunting license. The
- 14 expiration date of this license shall be on the same date each
- 15 year that game breeding and hunting preserve area licenses
- 16 expire.
- 17 Each applicant for a State Migratory Waterfowl Stamp,
- 18 regardless of his residence or other condition, shall pay a fee
- of \$10 and shall receive a stamp. Except as provided under
- 20 Section 20-45 of the Fish and Aquatic Life Code, the stamp
- 21 shall be signed by the person or affixed to his license or
- 22 permit in a space designated by the Department for that
- 23 purpose.
- 24 Each applicant for a State Habitat Stamp, regardless of his
- residence or other condition, shall pay a fee of \$5 and shall
- 26 receive a stamp. Except as provided under Section 20-45 of the

- 1 Fish and Aquatic Life Code, the stamp shall be signed by the
- 2 person or affixed to his license or permit in a space
- 3 designated by the Department for that purpose.
- 4 Nothing in this Section shall be construed as to require
- 5 the purchase of more than one State Habitat Stamp by any person
- 6 in any one license year.
- 7 The Department shall furnish the holders of hunting
- 8 licenses and stamps with an insignia as evidence of possession
- 9 of license, or license and stamp, as the Department may
- 10 consider advisable. The insignia shall be exhibited and used as
- 11 the Department may order.
- 12 All other hunting licenses and all State stamps shall
- expire upon March 31 of each year.
- Every person holding any license, permit, or stamp issued
- under the provisions of this Act shall have it in his
- 16 possession for immediate presentation for inspection to the
- officers and authorized employees of the Department, any
- sheriff, deputy sheriff, or any other peace officer making a
- demand for it. This provision shall not apply to Department
- 20 owned or managed sites where it is required that all hunters
- 21 deposit their license, permit, or Firearm Owner's
- 22 Identification Card at the check station upon entering the
- 23 hunting areas.
- 24 (Source: P.A. 93-554, eff. 8-20-03.)