

1 AN ACT concerning safety.

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

4 Section 5. The Wildlife Code is amended by adding Section
5 3.1-9 as follows:

6 (520 ILCS 5/3.1-9 new)

7 Sec. 3.1-9. Youth Hunting License.

8 Any resident youth age 16 and under may apply to the
9 Department for a Youth Hunting License, which extends limited
10 hunting privileges. The Youth Hunting License shall be a
11 renewable license that shall expire on the March 31 following
12 the date of issuance.

13 For youth age 16 and under, the Youth Hunting License shall
14 entitle the licensee to hunt while supervised by a parent,
15 grandparent, or guardian who is 21 years of age or older and
16 has a valid Illinois hunting license. Possession of a Youth
17 Hunting License shall serve in lieu of a valid hunting license,
18 but does not exempt the licensee from compliance with the
19 requirements of this Code and any rules adopted under this
20 Code.

21 A youth licensed under this Section shall not hunt or carry
22 a hunting device, including, but not limited to, a firearm, bow
23 and arrow, or crossbow unless the youth is accompanied by and

1 under the close personal supervision of a parent, grandparent,
2 or guardian who is 21 years of age or older and has a valid
3 Illinois hunting license.

4 At age 17 years or when the youth chooses to hunt by
5 themselves, they are required to successfully complete a hunter
6 safety course approved by the Department prior to being able to
7 obtain a full hunting license and subsequently hunt by
8 themselves.

9 In order to be approved for the Youth Hunting License, the
10 applicant must request a Youth Hunting License from the
11 Department and submit a \$7 fee, which shall be separate from
12 and additional to any other stamp, permit, tag, or license fee
13 that may be required for hunting under this Code. The
14 Department shall adopt rules for the administration of the
15 program, but shall not require any certificate of competency or
16 other hunting education as a condition of the Youth Hunting
17 License.

18 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
19 becoming law.