
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 287 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY HUTCHINSON, K. WARD, MENSCH, BARTOLOTTA,
MASTRIANO, J. WARD AND YUDICHAK, FEBRUARY 26, 2021

REFERRED TO GAME AND FISHERIES, FEBRUARY 26, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Titles 30 (Fish) and 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in fishing licenses, further providing
3 for disabled veterans and former prisoners of war and for
4 exemptions from license requirements; and, in hunting and
5 furtaking licenses, further providing for eligibility for
6 license, for resident license and fee exemptions and for
7 license costs and fees; and making editorial changes.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Section 2707(b) of Title 30 of the Pennsylvania
11 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a paragraph to read:
12 § 2707. Disabled veterans and former prisoners of war.

13 * * *

14 (b) Lifetime licenses.--

15 * * *

16 (3) A disabled veteran who holds a resident fishing
17 license and meets the qualifications of subsection (a)(2)
18 may, at the option of the applicant, upon reaching the
19 veteran's 65th birthday in the license year of the
20 application for the license, be issued a senior resident

1 disabled veteran lifetime fishing license at the cost of \$5
2 upon application to the commission or a county treasurer.

3 * * *

4 Section 2. Section 2709 of Title 30 is amended by adding a
5 subsection to read:

6 § 2709. Exemptions from license requirements.

7 * * *

8 (g) Nonresident military personnel fishing licenses.--

9 (1) The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to
10 nonresident military personnel who satisfy all of the
11 following:

12 (i) Are out-of-State residents.

13 (ii) Are on active and full-time duty in the United
14 States Armed Forces.

15 (iii) Are assigned to a facility within this
16 Commonwealth.

17 (iv) Have on their person while fishing proof of
18 their assignment to a facility within this Commonwealth.

19 (2) Such persons shall comply with the regulations of
20 the commission.

21 Section 3. Sections 2701(c) (1), 2704(b) and 2705(15) of
22 Title 34 are amended to read:

23 § 2701. License requirements.

24 * * *

25 (c) Exception.--Any person who has never held a hunting
26 license in Pennsylvania or any other state may participate in
27 the hunting and trapping activities authorized under this title
28 or commission regulations without compliance with subsection (a)
29 or section 2704 (relating to eligibility for license) if that
30 person satisfies all of the following requirements:

1 (1) The person who participates in the hunting or
2 trapping activities must always be in sight of and close
3 enough to a licensed hunter who is at least 18 years of age
4 to clearly hear and understand instructions communicated to
5 the person through normal conversation without the aid of any
6 device. The licensed hunter shall have a valid hunting
7 license for the game or wildlife they are hunting or qualify
8 for license and fee exemptions under section 2706 (relating
9 to [resident] license and fee exemptions).

10 * * *

11 § 2704. Eligibility for license.

12 * * *

13 (b) Hunter education.--Persons who have not held a hunting
14 license lawfully issued to them in this Commonwealth or another
15 state or nation or have not hunted under the exceptions in
16 section 2706 (relating to [resident] license and fee exemptions)
17 or do not possess a certificate of training approved by the
18 director prior to the enactment of this title shall be required
19 to attain accreditation in a hunter education program approved
20 by the director before a hunting license is issued to them. The
21 provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a person who
22 presents:

23 (1) Evidence of service in the armed forces of the
24 United States or in the United States Coast Guard and
25 discharge or separation under honorable conditions within
26 [six months] five years of the date of application.

27 (2) Evidence that the person is currently serving in the
28 armed forces of the United States or in the United States
29 Coast Guard.

30 * * *

1 § 2705. Classes of licenses.

2 Unless otherwise provided, any person wishing to exercise any
3 of the privileges granted by this title shall first secure the
4 applicable resident or nonresident hunting or furtaker license
5 as follows:

6 * * *

7 (15) Elk hunting license to persons eligible for classes
8 of licenses in paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (7), (7.1), (8), (9)
9 and (11.1). Notwithstanding any other provisions of this
10 title or the regulations promulgated thereunder, elk licenses
11 under this paragraph shall not be subject to the provisions
12 of sections 2706 (relating to [resident] license and fee
13 exemptions) and 2706.1 (relating to complimentary nonresident
14 licenses). To ensure sound management of Pennsylvania's wild
15 elk population, the commission may promulgate regulations to
16 establish a limited number of licenses. The commission may
17 establish a nonrefundable application fee at a cost of \$10.

18 * * *

19 Section 4. Section 2706 heading, (b)(1) and (1.1) and (e) of
20 Title 34 are amended and the section is amended by adding a
21 subsection to read:

22 § 2706. [Resident license] License and fee exemptions.

23 * * *

24 (b) Disabled veterans.--

25 (1) Any resident or nonresident disabled veteran who has
26 a disability incurred in any war or armed conflict which
27 consists of the loss of one or more limbs, or the loss of the
28 use of one or more limbs, or who is 100% disabled as
29 certified by the United States Department of Veterans
30 Affairs, and who meets all other qualifications of this title

1 and is otherwise mentally and physically fit, shall be issued
2 a free regular hunting or furtaking license upon application
3 to the commission or a county treasurer.

4 (1.1) Any resident or nonresident disabled veteran who
5 has a disability incurred in any war or armed conflict and
6 possesses a disability rating between 60% and 99% as
7 certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs
8 and who meets all other qualifications of this act and is
9 otherwise mentally and physically fit shall be issued a
10 [resident] hunting or furtaking license at the cost of \$1
11 upon application to the commission or a county treasurer. A
12 resident or nonresident disabled veteran who holds a hunting
13 or furtaking license under this paragraph may, at the option
14 of the applicant, upon reaching the veteran's 65th birthday
15 in the license year of the application for the license, be
16 issued:

17 (i) a senior lifetime disabled veteran hunting
18 license;

19 (ii) a senior lifetime disabled veteran furtaking
20 license; or

21 (iii) a senior lifetime disabled veteran combination
22 hunting and furtaking license.

23 * * *

24 (e) Military personnel hunting licenses.--[Resident
25 military] Military personnel hunting licenses shall be issued by
26 the commission, county treasurer or issuing agent to persons who
27 satisfy all of the following requirements:

28 (1) Are residents of this Commonwealth.

29 (2) Are on active and full-time duty in the United
30 States Armed Forces.

1 (3) Are assigned to a facility outside this
2 Commonwealth.

3 (4) Are on temporary leave in this Commonwealth.
4 Such persons shall comply with the regulations of the
5 commission.

6 (e.1) Nonresident military personnel.--Military personnel
7 hunting licenses shall be issued by the commission, county
8 treasurer or issuing agent to persons who satisfy all of the
9 following requirements:

10 (1) Are out-of-State residents.

11 (2) Are on active and full-time duty in the United
12 States Armed Forces.

13 (3) Are assigned to a facility within this Commonwealth.
14 Such persons shall comply with the regulations of the
15 commission.

16 * * *

17 Section 5. Section 2709(a) of Title 34 is amended to read:
18 § 2709. License costs and fees.

19 (a) License costs.--Any person who qualifies under the
20 provisions of this chapter shall be issued the applicable
21 license upon payment of the following costs and the issuing
22 agent's fee:

23 (1) (i) Junior resident hunting - \$5.

24 (ii) Junior resident combination hunting and
25 furtaker - \$8.

26 (2) (i) Adult resident hunting - \$19.

27 (ii) [Resident military] Military personnel hunting
28 - \$1.

29 (iii) Former prisoner of war hunting - \$1.

30 (iv) Pennsylvania National Guard hunting - \$1.

- 1 (v) Reserve component of the armed forces hunting -
2 \$1.
- 3 (3) (i) Senior resident hunting - \$12.
4 (ii) Senior lifetime resident hunting - \$50.
5 (iii) Senior lifetime resident combination hunting
6 and furtaker - \$100.
7 (iv) Senior lifetime disabled veteran hunting - \$15.
8 (v) Senior lifetime disabled veteran combination
9 hunting and furtaker - \$50.
- 10 (4) Bear hunting:
11 (i) Resident - \$15.
12 (ii) Nonresident - \$35.
- 13 (5) Antlerless deer:
14 (i) Resident, including [resident military, resident
15 disabled veteran and] landowner - \$5.
16 (ii) Nonresident - \$25.
17 (iii) Disabled veteran - \$5.
18 (iv) Military personnel - \$5.
- 19 (6) Archery deer:
20 (i) Resident - \$15.
21 (ii) Nonresident - \$25.
- 22 (7) Muzzleloader deer:
23 (i) Resident - \$10.
24 (ii) Nonresident - \$20.
- 25 (8) (Reserved).
26 (9) Adult nonresident hunting - \$100.
27 (10) (i) Junior nonresident hunting - \$40.
28 (ii) Junior nonresident combination hunting and
29 furtaker - \$50.
30 (11) Seven-day nonresident small game - \$30.

1 (12) Junior resident furtakers - \$5.
2 (13) Adult resident furtakers - \$19.
3 (14) (i) Senior resident furtakers - \$12.
4 (ii) Senior lifetime resident furtaker - \$50.
5 (iii) Senior lifetime disabled veteran furtaker -
6 \$15.

7 (15) Adult nonresident furtaker - \$80.

8 (16) Junior nonresident furtaker - \$40.

9 (17) [Resident disabled] Disabled veteran hunting or
10 furtaker under section [2706(b) (relating to disabled
11 veterans)] 2706(b)(1) (relating to license and fee
12 exemptions) - no cost.

13 (17.1) Disabled veteran hunting or furtaker under
14 section 2706(b)(1.1) - \$1.

15 (18) Replacement license - \$5. Antlerless deer and bear
16 licenses shall be replaced by the original issuing agent
17 only.

18 (19) Owners or possessors of land open to public hunting
19 under section 2706(d) [(relating to owners or possessors of
20 land open to public hunting)] - \$3.

21 (20) Migratory game bird hunting license:

22 (i) Resident - \$2.

23 (ii) Nonresident - \$5.

24 (21) Elk hunting license:

25 (i) Resident - \$25.

26 (ii) Nonresident - \$250.

27 (22) Special wild turkey license:

28 (i) Resident - \$20.

29 (ii) Nonresident - \$40.

30 * * *

1 Section 6. This act shall take effect in 60 days.