

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 240 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY HUTCHINSON, BAKER, BARTOLOTTA, BREWSTER, COSTA,
FOLMER, RAFFERTY, VULAKOVICH AND YAW, JANUARY 26, 2017

REFERRED TO GAME AND FISHERIES, JANUARY 26, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in hunting and furtaking licenses, further
3 providing for resident license and fee exemptions and for
4 license costs and fees; and making editorial changes.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Sections 2701(c)(1), 2704(b) introductory
8 paragraph, 2705(15), 2706 heading, (b)(1) and (1.1) and (b.1)
9 and 2709(a)(2) and (17) of Title 34 of the Pennsylvania
10 Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

11 § 2701. License requirements.

12 * * *

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

19 (1) The person who participates in the hunting or

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

9 * * *

10 § 2704. Eligibility for license.

11 * * *

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

22 * * *

23 § 2705. Classes of licenses.

24 Unless otherwise provided, any person wishing to exercise any
25 of the privileges granted by this title shall first secure the
26 applicable resident or nonresident hunting or furtaker license
27 as follows:

28 * * *

29 (15) Elk hunting license to persons eligible for classes
30 of licenses in paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (7), (7.1), (8), (9)

1 and (11.1). Notwithstanding any other provisions of this
2 title or the regulations promulgated thereunder, elk licenses
3 under this paragraph shall not be subject to the provisions
4 of sections 2706 (relating to [resident] license and fee
5 exemptions) and 2706.1 (relating to complimentary nonresident
6 licenses). To ensure sound management of Pennsylvania's wild
7 elk population, the commission may promulgate regulations to
8 establish a limited number of licenses. The commission may
9 establish a nonrefundable application fee at a cost of \$10.

10 * * *

11 § 2706. [Resident license] License and fee exemptions.

12 * * *

13 (b) Disabled veterans.--

14 (1) Any resident or nonresident disabled veteran who has
15 a disability incurred in any war or armed conflict which
16 consists of the loss of one or more limbs, or the loss of the
17 use of one or more limbs, or who is 100% disabled as
18 certified by the United States Department of Veterans
19 Affairs, and who meets all other qualifications of this title
20 and is otherwise mentally and physically fit, shall be issued
21 a free regular hunting or furtaking license upon application
22 to the commission or a county treasurer.

23 (1.1) Any resident or nonresident disabled veteran who
24 has a disability incurred in any war or armed conflict and
25 possesses a disability rating between 60% and 99% as
26 certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs
27 and who meets all other qualifications of this act and is
28 otherwise mentally and physically fit shall be issued a
29 resident hunting or furtaking license at the cost of \$1 upon
30 application to the commission or a county treasurer.

1 * * *

2 (b.1) Prisoners of war.--A resident or nonresident former
3 prisoner of war shall be entitled to purchase a resident hunting
4 license at the cost of \$1 plus the current issuing fee upon
5 application to the commission. An application under this
6 subsection shall contain the same information as is required for
7 other resident hunting license applications. As used in this
8 subsection, the term "former prisoner of war" means an
9 individual who was imprisoned by enemy forces while in the
10 service of the armed forces of the United States as certified by
11 the appropriate branch of the armed forces of the United States.

12 * * *

13 § 2709. License costs and fees.

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

18 * * *

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

20 (ii) Resident military personnel hunting - \$1.

21 (iii) [Former] Resident and nonresident former
22 prisoner of war hunting - \$1.

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

24 (v) Reserve component of the armed forces hunting -
25 \$1.

26 * * *

27 (17) Resident and nonresident disabled veteran hunting
28 or furtaker under section 2706(b) (relating to disabled
29 veterans) - no cost.

30 * * *

1 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.