
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 881

Session of
1981

INTRODUCED BY STAIRS, KUKOVICH, COCHRAN, PETRARCA, J. L. WRIGHT,
BLAUM, BELFANTI AND GRABOWSKI, MARCH 17, 1981

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAME AND FISHERIES, MARCH 17, 1981

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1225, No.316), entitled
2 "An act concerning game and other wild birds and wild
3 animals; and amending, revising, consolidating, and changing
4 the law relating thereto," authorizing the Game Commission to
5 establish deer management areas and to regulate the number of
6 antlerless deer licenses issued.

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

9 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 501, act of June 3,
10 1937 (P.L.1225, No.316), known as "The Game Law," amended
11 December 10, 1970 (P.L.896, No.282) and June 27, 1973 (P.L.83,
12 No.36), is amended to read:

13 Section 501. Open Seasons.--* * *

14 (c) Resident, Nonresident, and Alien Hunters' Licenses and
15 Tag for Antlerless Deer.--If in any year the commission, by
16 resolution, declares an open season for antlerless deer, it
17 shall issue resident, nonresident and alien hunters' licenses
18 and tags for antlerless deer to hunt for or kill such deer, at a
19 fee of two dollars thirty-five cents for the hunting license

1 year beginning September 1, 1973 and three dollars thirty-five
2 cents for the hunting license years beginning September 1, 1974
3 and thereafter under such rules and regulations governing the
4 issuance of such licenses and tags as it may deem necessary to
5 limit the number of persons who may hunt for such deer in any
6 county or deer management area of the Commonwealth, provided
7 public notice of such action is given as hereinafter required:
8 And provided, however, That no applications, for antlerless deer
9 licenses received from nonresidents and aliens shall be approved
10 or licenses issued in advance of thirty days prior to the
11 opening date of such antlerless deer season. Such licenses and
12 tags shall be issued without restriction or regard to the county
13 residence of the Pennsylvania applicant may be issued only to
14 holders of resident, nonresident, or alien hunting licenses, and
15 such licenses and tags shall not be transferable from one person
16 to another nor shall they be refunded or reissued to anyone.
17 Notwithstanding the provisions of any regulation limiting the
18 number of licenses and tags the commission shall issue resident
19 hunters' licenses and tags for antlerless deer to members of
20 Armed Forces who are residents of Pennsylvania and who are on
21 full time active duty, or to residents who were honorably
22 discharged from the Armed Forces within sixty days of the date
23 of the application upon substantial proof of their military
24 status.

25 Resident, nonresident, and alien hunters' licenses and tags
26 for antlerless deer shall be issued only by the [county
27 treasurers in counties where such deer may be hunted and killed,
28 who, for that purpose, are hereby made agents of the]
29 commission.

30 [For services rendered in collecting and paying over fees and

1 issuing licenses and tags, by mail or otherwise, such agents may
2 retain the sum of thirty-five cents from the amount paid by each
3 licensee, which amount shall be paid into the county treasury,
4 except that such agents other than the county treasurer may
5 retain therefrom any amounts necessary to reimburse them for any
6 expenses, including compensation of employes, incurred in
7 collecting such fees and issuing such licenses and tags.]

8 When such licenses are issued to restrict the number of
9 persons who may hunt antlerless deer in any county or deer
10 management area of the Commonwealth, any citizen of the United
11 States residing within the Commonwealth who is a bona fide owner
12 or lessee of lands which lie within the county or deer
13 management area declared open to the hunting of said deer, or
14 any member of the family or household, or regularly hired help
15 of such owner or lessee, if such person is a citizen of the
16 United States, actually residing upon and cultivating such
17 lands, is hereby declared eligible to hunt antlerless deer
18 without a resident hunters' license for antlerless deer upon
19 said property, and, by and with the consent of the owner
20 thereof, upon the lands immediately adjacent and connected with
21 his own lands, other than lands owned by or under the control of
22 the Commonwealth.

23 The terms "antlerless deer" and "deer without visible
24 antlers," as used in this subsection or any other provision of
25 the Game Law which this act amends, are hereby defined to mean a
26 deer without an antler sometimes called horn, or a deer with
27 antlers both of which are less than three inches long, the term
28 "antler," as herein used or in any other provision of the Game
29 Law which this act amends, meaning the bony growth on the head
30 of a deer regardless of its size or development.

1 When the commission adopts and promulgates such rules and
2 regulations relative to resident and nonresident hunters'
3 licenses and tags for antlerless deer, it is unlawful for any
4 person other than a landowner or lessee of the county or deer
5 management area or a member of his household, as hereinbefore
6 enumerated, to hunt for antlerless deer without a resident or
7 nonresident hunters' license and tag for antlerless deer, or to
8 take such deer contrary to the rules and regulations adopted by
9 the commission.

10 The tag issued with an antlerless deer license shall be
11 displayed on the outer garment immediately below the regular
12 resident or nonresident hunting license tag. Any person who
13 fails to display the tag herein provided shall, upon conviction,
14 be sentenced to pay a fine of ten dollars (\$10) and costs of
15 prosecution, provided it shall be determined the person has
16 purchased a license; otherwise, a penalty of twenty dollars
17 (\$20) and costs of prosecution shall be imposed.

18 * * *

19 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

20 Section 507. Deer Management Areas.--The commission may by
21 rule establish deer management areas to facilitate the control
22 and management of deer and may regulate the number of antlerless
23 deer licenses issued for each management area.

24 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.