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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1409 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY WENTLING, MAY 19, 2017

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAME AND FISHERIES, MAY 19, 2017

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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.