

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1409 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY WENTLING, RAPP, COOK, READSHAW, JAMES, CAUSER, SAINATO, WARD, ZIMMERMAN, SANKEY, B. MILLER, TURZAI, ROAE, JOZWIAK, GILLEN, REED, LONGIETTI AND ENGLISH, MAY 19, 2017

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON GAME AND FISHERIES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, JANUARY 23, 2018

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), AND 2706 heading, (b)(1) and (1.1) and <--
9 (b.1) 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:

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 * * *

24 § 2705. Classes of licenses.

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

29 * * *

30 (15) Elk hunting license to persons eligible for classes

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

11 * * *

12 § 2706. [Resident license] License and fee exemptions.

13 * * *

14 (b) Disabled veterans.--

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

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

1 application to the commission or a county treasurer.

2 * * *

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

13 * * *

14 SECTION 2. SECTION 2709(A)(2) AND (17) OF TITLE 34 ARE <--
15 AMENDED AND THE SUBSECTION IS AMENDED BY ADDING A PARAGRAPH TO
16 READ:

17 § 2709. License costs and fees.

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

22 * * *

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

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

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

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

28 (v) Reserve component of the armed forces hunting -
29 \$1.

30 * * *

1 (17) Resident and nonresident disabled veteran hunting
2 or furtaker under section ~~2706(b)~~ 2706(B)(1) (relating to <--
3 disabled veterans) - no cost.

4 (17.1) RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT DISABLED VETERAN HUNTING <--
5 OR FURTAKER UNDER SECTION 2706(B)(1.1) - \$1.

6 * * *

7 Section ~~2~~ 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days. <--