

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 138 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY MASTRIANO, LANGERHOLC, PHILLIPS-HILL, STEFANO AND COSTA, JANUARY 30, 2023

REFERRED TO GAME AND FISHERIES, JANUARY 30, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
 2 Statutes, in fishing licenses, further providing for disabled  
 3 veterans and former prisoners of war; and making an editorial  
 4 change.

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

7 Section 1. Section 2707 heading and (c) of Title 30 of the  
 8 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended and the section  
 9 is amended by adding a subsection to read:

10 § 2707. Disabled veterans [and], former prisoners of war and  
 11 first responders.

12 \* \* \*

13 (a.2) General rule for disabled first responders.--

14 (1) A disabled first responder who is a resident of this  
 15 Commonwealth, who has a disability incurred in the line of  
 16 duty that prevents the individual from engaging in  
 17 substantial, gainful employment and who meets the  
 18 qualifications of section 2701 shall be issued a free  
 19 resident fishing license upon application to the commission

1 or a county treasurer. An application submitted by a disabled  
2 first responder shall, in addition to any information  
3 required under section 2701, contain a statement that the  
4 applicant is a 100% disabled first responder and that the  
5 qualifying disability was incurred in the line of duty and  
6 prevents the individual from engaging in substantial, gainful  
7 employment. The issuing agent or the commission may require  
8 the production of a disability determination from a physician  
9 licensed in this Commonwealth.

10 (2) As used in this subsection, the term "first  
11 responder" means an individual who serves as a member of a  
12 police department, fire department or rescue agency in this  
13 Commonwealth.

14 \* \* \*

15 (c) Home rule and optional plan counties.--In a county where  
16 there is no county treasurer by virtue of a home rule charter or  
17 optional plan of government, the county official who performs  
18 the functions of a county treasurer and who has been designated  
19 an issuing agent by the commission shall issue free and reduced  
20 fee resident fishing licenses to disabled veterans [and],  
21 reduced fee resident fishing licenses to former prisoners of war  
22 and free resident fishing licenses to disabled first responders  
23 under this section.

24 Section 2. Section 2907.2(c) of Title 30 is amended to read:  
25 § 2907.2. Lake Erie fishing permits.

26 \* \* \*

27 (c) Exemptions.--Persons entitled to free fishing licenses  
28 under section 2707 (relating to disabled veterans, former  
29 prisoners of war and first responders) and persons exempt from  
30 fishing license requirements under Chapter 27 (relating to

1 fishing licenses) are exempt from the requirements of this  
2 section. Holders of Senior Resident Lifetime Fishing Licenses  
3 issued under section 2701 (relating to resident fishing  
4 licenses) shall meet the requirements of this section by  
5 purchasing one annual special permit which shall be valid for  
6 the licensee's lifetime.

7 \* \* \*

8 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.