

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 HOUSE BILL 2735

By: Renegar

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to game and fish; amending 29 O.S.
8 2001, Section 4-112A, as amended by Section 1,
9 Chapter 79, O.S.L. 2007 (29 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section
10 4-112A), which relates to requirements for a hunter
11 certificate of competency and safety; changing the
12 age limit for an apprentice hunting license or
13 permit; and declaring an emergency.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 29 O.S. 2001, Section 4-112A, as
16 amended by Section 1, Chapter 79, O.S.L. 2007 (29 O.S. Supp. 2007,
17 Section 4-112A), is amended to read as follows:

18 Section 4-112A. A. No person thirty-five (35) years of age or
19 younger may purchase or receive any hunting license or hunting tag
20 unless the person possesses and can exhibit a certificate of
21 competency and safety in the use and handling of firearms from the
22 Department of Wildlife Conservation. The Department shall charge no
23 fee for the issuance of certificates. A hunter safety certificate
24 issued by another state or country and approved by the Department of

1 Wildlife Conservation shall be deemed to meet the requirements of
2 this section.

3 B. A youth hunter under sixteen (16) years of age hunting small
4 game shall be exempt from the hunter safety certification
5 requirements set forth in subsection A of this section if they are
6 accompanied by a licensed hunter twenty-one (21) years of age or
7 older who possesses a certificate of hunter safety or is exempt from
8 the hunter safety certification requirements. The accompanying
9 hunter shall be in sight of the youth hunter and shall be able to
10 communicate with the youth hunter in a normal voice without the aid
11 of any communication device. A youth hunter who possesses a
12 certificate of hunter safety may hunt small game without an
13 accompanying hunter as long as the youth hunter carries the
14 certification on their person.

15 C. Persons ~~sixteen (16)~~ ten (10) years of age through thirty-
16 five (35) years of age who do not possess a certificate of hunter
17 safety may purchase or receive any hunting license or permit with
18 the designation "apprentice" listed on the hunter education line of
19 the license or permit. A person holding a license or permit with
20 the apprentice designation shall be allowed to hunt only if they are
21 accompanied by a licensed hunter twenty-one (21) years of age or
22 older who possesses a certificate of hunter safety or is exempt from
23 the hunter safety certification requirements or is accompanied by a
24 person exempt from the hunting license requirements. When hunting

1 big game, the accompanying hunter shall be within arm's length of
2 the apprentice hunter or close enough so that the accompanying
3 hunter can immediately take control of the firearm or archery
4 equipment of the apprentice hunter. When hunting small game, the
5 accompanying hunter shall be in sight of the apprentice hunter and
6 shall be able to communicate with the apprentice hunter in a normal
7 voice without the aid of any communication device.

8 D. Legal residents who do not possess a certificate of hunter
9 safety may purchase a lifetime hunting license or lifetime
10 combination hunting/fishing license with the designation
11 "apprentice" listed on the hunter education line of the license. A
12 resident holding a lifetime license with the apprentice designation
13 shall be allowed to hunt only if they comply with the accompanying
14 hunter requirements as set forth in subsection C of this section.
15 Upon obtaining a certificate of hunter safety, a resident holding a
16 lifetime license with the apprentice designation shall be entitled
17 to renew their license without the apprentice designation.

18 E. The Department of Wildlife Conservation shall promulgate
19 rules necessary for the certification of programs for hunter safety
20 offered by other public or private organizations.

21 F. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any person
22 who has an honorable discharge from the United States Armed Forces,
23 who is currently on active duty in the United States Armed Forces or
24 a member of the National Guard. In addition, the provisions of this

1 section shall not apply to any person who is a resident landowner or
2 a resident tenant, while hunting game other than deer or antelope,
3 upon land owned or leased by the person. The provisions of this
4 subsection shall not exempt nonresidents owning land in this state
5 nor any person leasing land, for the purpose of hunting.

6 G. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this
7 section shall be punished by the imposition of a fine of not less
8 than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) nor more than Two Hundred Dollars
9 (\$200.00) or by imprisonment in the county jail for a period not to
10 exceed thirty (30) days, or by both fine and imprisonment.

11 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
12 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
13 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
14 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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