

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 March 26, 2013

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE
4 BILL NO. 1928

By: Dewitt of the House

5 and

6 Fields of the Senate

7
8 An Act relating to game and fish; amending 29 O.S.
9 2011, Section 4-112A, which relates to hunting
10 licenses; making certain persons ineligible for
11 certain testing and certification; modifying age
12 restrictions for apprentice licenses; and providing
13 an effective date.

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 29 O.S. 2011, Section 4-112A, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Section 4-112A. A. No person thirty (30) years of age or
18 younger may purchase or receive any hunting license or hunting tag
19 unless the person possesses and can exhibit a certificate of
20 competency and safety in the use and handling of firearms from the
21 Department of Wildlife Conservation. The Department shall charge no
22 fee for the issuance of certificates. Persons under ten (10) years
23 of age may take the hunter education course but are not eligible to
24 be tested for and receive hunter safety certification. A hunter
safety certificate issued by another state or country and approved

1 by the Department of Wildlife Conservation shall be deemed to meet
2 the requirements of 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 eighteen (18) years of age or older
7 who possesses a certificate of hunter safety or is exempt from the
8 hunter safety certification requirements. The accompanying hunter
9 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 ~~eight (8) years of age through~~ under thirty (30)
16 years of age who do not possess a certificate of hunter safety may
17 purchase or receive any hunting license or permit which is required
18 by law with the designation "apprentice" listed on the hunter
19 education line of the license or permit. A person holding a license
20 or permit with the apprentice designation shall be allowed to hunt
21 only if they are accompanied by a licensed hunter eighteen (18)
22 years of age or older who possesses a certificate of hunter safety
23 or is exempt from the hunter safety certification requirements or is
24 accompanied by a person exempt from the hunting license

1 requirements. In addition, all persons under ten (10) years of age,
2 when hunting big game, regardless of hunter safety certification,
3 shall be accompanied by a licensed hunter eighteen (18) years of age
4 or older who possesses a certificate of hunter safety or is exempt
5 from the hunter safety certification requirements or is accompanied
6 by a person exempt from the hunting license requirement. When
7 hunting big game, the accompanying hunter shall be within arm's
8 length of the apprentice hunter or close enough so that the
9 accompanying hunter can immediately take control of the firearm or
10 archery equipment of the apprentice hunter. When hunting small
11 game, the accompanying hunter shall be in sight of the apprentice
12 hunter and shall be able to communicate with the apprentice hunter
13 in a normal voice without the aid of any communication device.

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

24

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

4 F. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any person
5 who has an honorable discharge from the United States Armed Forces,
6 who is currently on active duty in the United States Armed Forces or
7 a member of the National Guard. In addition, the provisions of this
8 section shall not apply to any person who is a resident landowner or
9 a resident tenant, while hunting game other than deer or antelope,
10 upon land owned or leased by the person. The provisions of this
11 subsection shall not exempt nonresidents owning land in this state
12 nor any person leasing land, for the purpose of hunting.

13 G. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this
14 section shall be punished by the imposition of a fine of not less
15 than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) nor more than Two Hundred Dollars
16 (\$200.00) or by imprisonment in the county jail for a period not to
17 exceed thirty (30) days, or by both fine and imprisonment.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2013.

19 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND WILDLIFE
20 March 26, 2013 - DO PASS