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February 14, 2022

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 1696

By: Treat

An Act relating to hunting and fishing; amending 29 O.S. 2021, Sections 4-101, 4-112, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 229, O.S.L. 2017, and 4-113, which relate to hunting and fishing licenses; allowing for expiration of nonresident and resident licenses one year after purchase; clarifying language; modifying fee schedule for certain legal residents; updating statutory reference; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 29 O.S. 2021, Section 4-101, is amended to read as follows:

Section 4-101. A. All licenses and permits issued by the Director of Wildlife Conservation, the Department of Wildlife Conservation or by any of its agents shall be used only in conformity with the provisions of this title and the rules promulgated by the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission.

B. All persons making application for any licenses required by this section shall produce a valid license to operate a motor vehicle or other positive proof of identification, age and

1 residency, and any such license issued shall show such data as well
2 as the date and time of issuance.

3 C. All licenses are nontransferable. No person shall alter,
4 change, lend or transfer any license. No person shall use or borrow
5 a license which has not been issued to that person by the Director,
6 the Department or by any of its agents pursuant to the provisions of
7 this section.

8 D. No person may engage in activities requiring a license
9 without that person's carrying such license on their person and
10 producing the same for an inspection upon the demand of any Oklahoma
11 citizen or game warden.

12 E. Any person required to produce a license must also identify
13 themselves as the person to whom such license was issued, and
14 failure or refusal to comply shall be deemed prima facie evidence of
15 a violation of this section.

16 F. Unless otherwise provided in this Code:

17 1. Hunting licenses issued pursuant to paragraph 1 of
18 subsection C and paragraphs 1 and ~~3~~ 2 of subsection E of Section 4-
19 112 of this title and paragraphs 1 and ~~3~~ 2 of subsection B of
20 Section 4-113 of this title ~~shall expire on December 31 of the year~~
21 ~~issued. Hunting licenses issued pursuant to paragraph 2 of~~
22 ~~subsection C and paragraphs 2 and 4 of subsection E of Section 4-112~~
23 ~~of this title and paragraphs 2 and 4 of subsection B of Section 4-~~
24 ~~113 of this title shall expire on June 30 of the fiscal year issued.~~

1 ~~All other licenses shall terminate December 31 for the year~~ expire
2 one (1) year after the date issued; and

3 2. Any person convicted of violating any of the provisions of
4 this title may have any or all licenses held by that person or the
5 privilege of applying for, purchasing or exercising the benefits
6 conferred by the licenses revoked by the Department in accordance
7 with rules promulgated by the Commission or by a court of competent
8 jurisdiction for a period of not less than one (1) year. For
9 purposes of this paragraph, a court conviction, a plea of guilty, a
10 plea of nolo contendere, the imposition of a deferred or suspended
11 sentence by a court, or forfeiture of bond shall be deemed a
12 conviction.

13 G. Should any license or permit issued pursuant to Part 1 of
14 Article IV of this title be lost or destroyed, duplicates will be
15 issued by the Department at a fee of One Dollar and fifty cents
16 (\$1.50).

17 H. Upon harvesting any whitetail or mule deer, or any other
18 wildlife where the hunter, according to Commission rules, is
19 required to check the wildlife in at a Department check station, the
20 taker of the wildlife shall:

21 1. Securely attach the name of the taker, time of harvest, date
22 of harvest and license number to the carcass of the wildlife;

23 2. Check in the carcass of the wildlife electronically using
24 the online check station provided on the official website of the

1 Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation or as prescribed by
2 rule of the Commission, within twenty-four (24) hours of leaving the
3 hunt area and in all cases prior to processing the carcass; and

4 3. Not remove evidence of the sex of the animal until after the
5 carcass of the animal has been checked in.

6 I. It shall be unlawful for any license or permit holder to
7 knowingly make a false statement or give false information to any
8 authorized hunter check station or to an authorized Department
9 employee when complying with the provisions of subsection H of this
10 section. Information which may be collected at a Department check
11 station shall include but not be limited to the name, address,
12 license or permit number and signature of the taker, the date, time,
13 county, method or weapon of the kill, sex and weight of carcass,
14 whether or not the animal was taken on public hunting land and if so
15 in what area, or any other information which may be required by the
16 Commission.

17 J. 1. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this
18 section or of making a false statement or giving any false
19 information in order to acquire any license or permit, pursuant to
20 the provisions of this section, shall be punishable by a fine of not
21 less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than Two Hundred
22 Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), or by imprisonment in the county jail for a
23 period not to exceed ten (10) days, or by both such fine and
24 imprisonment. Any person convicted of a second or subsequent

1 violation of the provisions of this section or of making a false
2 statement or giving any false information in order to acquire any
3 license or permit, pursuant to the provisions of this section, shall
4 be punishable by a fine of not less than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars
5 (\$250.00) nor more than Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00), or by
6 imprisonment in the county jail for a period not to exceed ten (10)
7 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

8 2. Any hunting or fishing license issued to a person by the
9 Department of Wildlife Conservation shall be automatically revoked
10 upon conviction of the person of violating the provisions of this
11 section. The revocation shall be for a period set by the court of
12 not less than one (1) year nor more than ten (10) years. If the
13 court does not set a period, the revocation shall be for one (1)
14 year from the date of the conviction. During this period of
15 revocation, the Department shall not issue the person a hunting or
16 fishing license. If the court does not set a revocation period, the
17 Department shall not issue that person a license within one (1) year
18 of the conviction of the person pursuant to this section. A person
19 who has a license or permit revoked pursuant to this section shall
20 surrender the revoked license or permit to the court, or the court
21 may order the defendant to surrender the license or permit directly
22 to an officer from the Department of Wildlife Conservation present
23 at the hearing. If the license or permit is surrendered to the
24 court, the court shall send the Department of Wildlife Conservation

1 the revoked license. The court shall also send the Department a
2 copy of the judgment of conviction. For purposes of this section,
3 "conviction" shall include a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to an
4 offense or the imposition of deferred adjudication for an offense.
5 In lieu of sending a paper copy of the documents and information
6 required by this subsection, the court clerk may transmit the
7 conviction information by using an electronic method authorized by
8 the Department of Wildlife Conservation.

9 K. Any person who has had their license privileges revoked
10 shall not be entitled to purchase, apply for, or exercise the
11 benefits conferred by any license until the revocation period has
12 expired or the person has obtained approval from the Director. Any
13 person violating the provisions of this subsection, upon conviction,
14 shall be punished by a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars
15 (\$500.00), or by imprisonment in a county jail for a term of not
16 more than ninety (90) days or by both the fine and imprisonment.
17 Upon conviction under this subsection, the previously granted
18 license revocation period shall be extended by two (2) additional
19 years.

20 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 29 O.S. 2021, Section 4-112, as
21 last amended by Section 3, Chapter 229, O.S.L. 2017, is amended to
22 read as follows:

23 Section 4-112. A. Except as otherwise provided for in the
24 Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Code or the Oklahoma Farmed Cervidae

1 Act, no person may hunt, pursue, trap, harass, catch, kill, take or
2 attempt to take in any manner, use, have in possession, sell, or
3 transport all or any portion of any wildlife except fish, without
4 having first procured a license from the Department of Wildlife
5 Conservation. The Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission shall
6 designate a consecutive Saturday and Sunday in September of each
7 year as free hunting days in which residents of this state may hunt
8 without first procuring a hunting license pursuant to the provisions
9 of this section.

10 B. The following legal residents of Oklahoma shall be exempt
11 from the annual hunting license requirement of paragraph 1 of
12 subsection E of this section and the following nonresidents shall be
13 exempt from the annual nonresident hunting licenses required
14 pursuant to paragraph 1 of subsection C of this section:

15 1. Legal residents under sixteen (16) years of age;

16 2. Legal residents sixty-five (65) years of age or older
17 provided they have obtained a senior citizen lifetime hunting or
18 combination hunting and fishing license pursuant to the provisions
19 of Section 4-114 of this title;

20 3. Legal residents born on or before January 1, 1923;

21 4. Legal resident veterans having a disability of sixty percent
22 (60%) or more and registered with the veterans registry created by
23 the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs; provided, that if the
24 veteran has previously received an exemption pursuant to this

1 paragraph, no registration with the veterans registry shall be
2 required;

3 5. Legal resident owners or tenants who hunt on land owned or
4 leased by them;

5 6. Any nonresident under fourteen (14) years of age;

6 7. Legal residents having a proven disability which renders
7 them nonambulatory and confines them to a wheelchair, as certified
8 by a physician licensed in this state or in any state which borders
9 this state;

10 8. Any legal resident or nonresident under eighteen (18) years
11 of age who is in the physical custody of a child care facility as
12 defined by Section 402 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

13 9. Any legal resident or nonresident hunting, pursuing,
14 trapping, harassing, catching, killing, taking, or attempting to
15 take in any manner any species of rattlesnake during an organized
16 rattlesnake-hunting event or festival and who has a rattlesnake
17 permit issued pursuant to Section 4-143 of this title.

18 C. Except as otherwise provided for in the Oklahoma Wildlife
19 Conservation Code, the nonresident hunting licenses issued pursuant
20 to this section and the fee for each license shall be:

21 1. Annual hunting license for nonresidents hunting game other
22 than deer, antelope, elk or bear which expires ~~on December 31 of the~~
23 one (1) year purchased after the date of issuance - One Hundred
24 Forty-one Dollars (\$141.00). Nonresidents hunting big game or

1 combination big game and upland game in a commercial hunting area
2 shall be required to have this license;

3 2. Annual hunting license for nonresidents hunting game other
4 than deer, antelope, elk or bear which expires on June 30 of the
5 fiscal year purchased - One Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$175.00).
6 Nonresidents hunting big game or combination big game and upland
7 game in a commercial hunting area shall be required to have this
8 license;

9 3. Gun hunting license for deer for nonresidents which shall be
10 valid for hunting all deer allowed during the current calendar year
11 deer gun season - Two Hundred Seventy-nine Dollars (\$279.00);

12 4. Archery hunting license for deer for nonresidents which
13 shall expire on January 15 of the calendar year after the year
14 purchased or if purchased during the deer archery season it shall
15 expire at the end of that deer archery season - Two Hundred Seventy-
16 nine Dollars (\$279.00);

17 5. Primitive firearms hunting license for deer for nonresidents
18 which shall be valid for hunting all deer allowed during the current
19 calendar year deer primitive firearms season - Two Hundred Seventy-
20 nine Dollars (\$279.00);

21 6. Hunting license for antelope for nonresidents - Three
22 Hundred Five Dollars (\$305.00);

23 7. Hunting license for elk for nonresidents - Three Hundred
24 Five Dollars (\$305.00);

1 8. Five-day hunting license for nonresidents hunting game other
2 than deer, antelope, elk, quail, turkey or bear - Seventy-four
3 Dollars (\$74.00); and

4 9. Ten-day hunting license for nonresidents hunting small game
5 in a commercial hunting area - Five Dollars (\$5.00).

6 D. Of the fees collected pursuant to the provisions of
7 subsection C of this section:

8 1. Five Dollars (\$5.00) of the license fee of each license
9 issued pursuant to paragraphs 1 through 7 of subsection C of this
10 section and Two Dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) of the license fee
11 for each license issued pursuant to paragraph 8 of subsection C of
12 this section shall be deposited in the Wildlife Land Acquisition
13 Fund created pursuant to the provisions of Section 4-132 of this
14 title; and

15 2. Five Dollars (\$5.00) of the license fee for each license
16 issued pursuant to paragraphs 1 through 8 of subsection C of this
17 section shall be for the Oklahoma Wildlife Land Stamp and shall be
18 deposited in the Oklahoma Wildlife Land Fund created pursuant to the
19 provisions of Section 4-141 of this title.

20 E. Except as otherwise provided, the annual resident hunting
21 licenses issued pursuant to this subsection shall expire one (1)
22 year after the date of issuance. The resident hunting licenses
23 issued pursuant to this section and the fee for each license shall
24 be:

1 1. ~~Annual hunting license for residents eighteen (18) years of~~
2 ~~age and older which expires on December 31 of the year purchased -~~
3 ~~Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00);~~

4 2. Annual hunting license for residents eighteen (18) years of
5 age and older ~~which expires on June 30 of the fiscal year purchased~~
6 - Thirty-one Dollars (\$31.00);

7 3. ~~Annual hunting license for residents sixteen (16) or~~
8 ~~seventeen (17) years of age which expires on December 31 of the year~~
9 ~~purchased - Four Dollars (\$4.00);~~

10 4. 2. Annual hunting license for residents sixteen (16) or
11 seventeen (17) years of age ~~which expires on June 30 of the fiscal~~
12 ~~year purchased - Six Dollars (\$6.00);~~

13 5. 3. Ten-day hunting license for residents for small game in a
14 commercial hunting area - Five Dollars (\$5.00);

15 6. 4. Five-year disability hunting license for residents ~~of~~
16 ~~this state~~ for at least six (6) months who are receiving Social
17 Security Disability benefits, Supplemental Security Income benefits
18 or disability benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act, 45
19 U.S.C.A., Section 231a, or residents who are one-hundred-percent
20 disabled and are receiving disability payments from the Multiple
21 Injury Trust Fund pursuant to Section 31 of Title 85A of the
22 Oklahoma Statutes - Ten Dollars (\$10.00);

1 ~~7.~~ 5. Gun hunting license for deer for residents eighteen (18)
2 years of age or older - Nineteen Dollars (\$19.00). The following
3 persons shall be exempt:

4 a. residents with proper certification from the United
5 States Department of Veterans Affairs or its
6 successor, certifying that the person is a disabled
7 veteran in receipt of compensation at the one-hundred-
8 percent rate and registered with the veterans registry
9 created by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans
10 Affairs; provided, that if the veteran has previously
11 received an exemption pursuant to this subparagraph,
12 no registration with the veterans registry shall be
13 required, and

14 b. residents hunting in big game or combination big game
15 and upland game commercial hunting areas;

16 ~~8.~~ 6. Gun hunting license for deer for residents under eighteen
17 (18) years of age - Nine Dollars (\$9.00);

18 ~~9.~~ 7. Archery hunting license for deer for residents eighteen
19 (18) years of age or older - Nineteen Dollars (\$19.00). The
20 following persons shall be exempt:

21 a. residents with proper certification from the United
22 States Department of Veterans Affairs or its
23 successor, certifying that the person is a disabled
24 veteran in receipt of compensation at the one-hundred-

1 percent rate and registered with the veterans registry
2 created by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans
3 Affairs; provided, that if the veteran has previously
4 received the exemption pursuant to this subparagraph,
5 no registration with the veterans registry shall be
6 required, and

7 b. residents hunting in big game or combination big game
8 and upland game commercial hunting areas;

9 ~~10.~~ 8. Archery hunting license for deer for residents under
10 eighteen (18) years of age - Nine Dollars (\$9.00);

11 ~~11.~~ 9. Primitive firearms hunting license for deer for
12 residents eighteen (18) years of age or older - Nineteen Dollars
13 (\$19.00). The following persons shall be exempt:

14 a. residents with proper certification from the United
15 States Department of Veterans Affairs or its
16 successor, certifying that the person is a disabled
17 veteran in receipt of compensation at the one-hundred-
18 percent rate and registered with the veterans registry
19 created by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans
20 Affairs; provided, that if the veteran has previously
21 received the exemption pursuant to this subparagraph,
22 no registration with the veterans registry shall be
23 required, and
24

1 b. residents hunting in big game or combination big game
2 and upland game commercial hunting areas;

3 ~~12.~~ 10. Primitive firearms hunting license for deer for
4 residents under eighteen (18) years of age - Nine Dollars (\$9.00);

5 ~~13.~~ 11. Hunting license for elk for residents - Fifty Dollars
6 (\$50.00). Residents hunting in big game or combination big game and
7 upland game commercial hunting areas shall be exempt from this
8 license;

9 ~~14.~~ 12. Hunting license for antelope for residents - Fifty
10 Dollars (\$50.00). Residents hunting in big game or combination big
11 game and upland game commercial hunting areas shall be exempt from
12 this license; and

13 ~~15.~~ 13. Bonus, special or additional gun hunting license for
14 deer for residents - Nineteen Dollars (\$19.00). The following
15 persons shall be exempt:

16 a. residents with proper certification from the United
17 States Department of Veterans Affairs or its
18 successor, certifying that the person is a disabled
19 veteran in receipt of compensation at the one-hundred-
20 percent rate and registered with the veterans registry
21 created by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans
22 Affairs; provided, that if the veteran has previously
23 received the exemption pursuant to this subparagraph,
24

1 no registration with the veterans registry shall be
2 required, and

3 b. residents hunting in big game or combination big game
4 and upland game commercial hunting areas.

5 F. Of the fees collected pursuant to the provisions of
6 ~~paragraphs~~ paragraph 1 and 2 of subsection E of this section, Five
7 Dollars (\$5.00) of the license fee shall be for the Oklahoma
8 Wildlife Land Stamp and shall be deposited in the Oklahoma Wildlife
9 Land Fund created pursuant to the provisions of Section 4-141 of
10 this title.

11 G. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to
12 require a hunting license, resident or nonresident, of any person
13 merely because the person participates, as owner or handler of an
14 entry, as an official, or as a spectator in the conduct of a field
15 trial or performance test of dogs, whether a resident or nonresident
16 of ~~the State of Oklahoma~~ this state. No license to hunt shall be
17 required of any person engaged in training or working dogs, provided
18 that person is in no way engaged in hunting and does not take or
19 attempt to take in any manner any game.

20 H. 1. Any person arrested for hunting game other than deer,
21 antelope, elk, bear or turkey without a valid hunting license as
22 required by the provisions of subsection A of this section may
23 purchase a substitute temporary thirty-day license from the
24 arresting game warden in lieu of posting bond. Proof of hunter

1 safety certification will not be required for the temporary
2 substitute license. The fee for a substitute license purchased
3 pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall be:

- 4 a. for legal residents, Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), and
- 5 b. for nonresidents, One Hundred Forty-five Dollars
6 (\$145.00).

7 2. Except as otherwise provided for by this subsection, the
8 fees from licenses purchased pursuant to the provisions of this
9 subsection shall be deposited in the Wildlife Conservation Fund to
10 be used exclusively for developing, managing, preserving, and
11 protecting wildlife and wildlife habitat.

12 I. Any person producing proof in court that a current hunting
13 license issued by the Department of Wildlife Conservation to that
14 person was in force at the time of the alleged offense shall be
15 entitled to dismissal of a charge of violating this section upon
16 payment of court costs. If proof of a current hunting license
17 issued by the Department to the person that was in force at the time
18 of the alleged offense is presented to the court or district
19 attorney within seventy-two (72) hours after the violation, the
20 charge shall be dismissed without payment of court costs.

21 J. Unless a substitute license is purchased as provided for by
22 subsection H of this section, any resident convicted of violating
23 the provisions of this section shall be punished by the imposition
24 of a fine of not less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) nor more

1 than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), or by imprisonment in the county
2 jail for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days, or by both.

3 K. Unless a substitute license is purchased as provided for by
4 subsection H of this section, any nonresident convicted of violating
5 the provisions of this section shall be punished by the imposition
6 of a fine of not less than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) nor more
7 than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or by imprisonment in the
8 county jail for a period not to exceed six (6) months, or by both.

9 L. The Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission shall
10 promulgate any rules necessary to implement the provisions of this
11 section.

12 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 29 O.S. 2021, Section 4-113, is
13 amended to read as follows:

14 Section 4-113. A. Legal residents who are not the individuals
15 ~~excepted~~ exempted from the license requirement as provided in
16 subsection B of Section 4-112 of this title may purchase an annual
17 combination hunting/fishing license from the Director or agents of
18 the Director.

19 B. The fee for each combination hunting/fishing license issued
20 under this section shall be:

21 1. ~~For legal residents eighteen (18) years of age and older for~~
22 ~~a license that expires on December 31 of the year purchased — Forty~~
23 ~~one Dollars (\$41.00);~~

1 ~~2.~~ For residents eighteen (18) years of age and older for a
2 license that expires ~~on June 30 of the fiscal year purchased~~ one (1)
3 year after the date of issuance - Fifty-two Dollars (\$52.00);

4 ~~3.~~ ~~For legal residents sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) years of~~
5 ~~age for a license that expires on December 31 of the year purchased~~
6 ~~Thirteen Dollars (\$13.00); and~~

7 ~~4.~~ 2. For legal residents sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) years
8 of age for a license that expires ~~on June 30 of the fiscal year~~
9 ~~purchased~~ one (1) year after the date of issuance - Eighteen Dollars
10 (\$18.00).

11 C. Of the fees collected pursuant to the provisions of
12 ~~paragraphs~~ paragraph 1 ~~and 2~~ of subsection B of this section, Five
13 Dollars (\$5.00) of the license fee shall be for the Oklahoma
14 Wildlife Land Stamp and shall be deposited in the Oklahoma Wildlife
15 Land Fund created pursuant to the provisions of Section 4-141 of
16 this title.

17 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2022.

18 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND WILDLIFE
19 February 14, 2022 - DO PASS AS AMENDED
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