

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE BILL 982

By: Green

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to game and fish; amending 29 O.S. 2021, Section 4-144, which relates to black bear hunting license; providing certain exemption from license requirement; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 29 O.S. 2021, Section 4-144, is amended to read as follows:

Section 4-144. A. No person may hunt or take black bear without having first procured a license from the Director of Wildlife Conservation or an agent of the Director.

B. The Wildlife Conservation Commission shall decide the open season, the bag limits, and territorial limitations for hunting or taking black bear.

C. The fees for a license issued pursuant to this section shall be:

1. For legal residents, One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00); and
2. For nonresidents, Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).

D. Any person who fails to obtain a license as required in subsection A of this section and pay the fee as required in

1 paragraph 1 of subsection C of this section, upon conviction, shall
2 be punished by a fine of not less than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00)
3 nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or by imprisonment in
4 the county jail for a period not to exceed six (6) months, or by
5 both said fine and imprisonment.

6 E. Any person who fails to obtain a license as required in
7 subsection A of this section and pay the fee as required in
8 paragraph 2 of subsection C of this section, upon conviction, shall
9 be punished by a fine of not less than Eight Hundred Dollars
10 (\$800.00) nor more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or by
11 imprisonment in the county jail for a period not to exceed six (6)
12 months, or by both said fine and imprisonment.

13 F. Legal residents of Oklahoma shall be exempt from the annual
14 black bear license requirements of subsection A of this section
15 provided a legal resident acquires a lifetime hunting or combination
16 lifetime hunting and fishing license pursuant to the provisions of
17 Section 4-114 of this title.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.

19 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
20 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
21 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
22 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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24 59-1-1179

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