

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

As Engrossed: S3/11/19 S3/25/19
A Bill

SENATE BILL 397

By: Senator D. Wallace
By: Representative Brown

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING LIFETIME HUNTING LICENSES AND FISHING LICENSES FOR A RESIDENT DISABLED VETERAN; TO INCLUDE A LIFETIME COMBINATION HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE WITH A LIFETIME STATE DUCK AND TROUT STAMP; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING LIFETIME HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES FOR A RESIDENT DISABLED VETERAN; AND TO INCLUDE A LIFETIME COMBINATION HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE WITH A LIFETIME STATE DUCK AND TROUT STAMP.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 15-42-128 is amended to read as follows:

15-42-128. Lifetime hunting licenses and fishing licenses for resident disabled veterans – Definition.

(a) The General Assembly finds and determines that:

(1) The regulation of hunting and fishing, and the issuance of hunting licenses and fishing licenses, in the state is a primary responsibility of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission under Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 35;

(2) Disabled veterans of Arkansas deserve to be recognized and honored for their service and sacrifice in honorably serving the nation and



this state;

(3) The establishment and issuance of lifetime hunting licenses and lifetime fishing licenses in this state is a small way to recognize and honor the service of disabled veterans in this state; and

(4) It is the purpose and intent of this section to authorize and encourage the commission to establish and issue lifetime hunting licenses, ~~and lifetime fishing licenses, and lifetime combination hunting and fishing licenses~~ for eligible disabled veterans in this state.

(b) The commission may establish for issuance lifetime hunting ~~and licenses, lifetime fishing licenses, and lifetime combination hunting and fishing licenses~~ for eligible disabled veterans in this state.

(c) As used in this section, "disabled veteran" means a veteran who is a resident of the state and has ~~either been determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to be:~~

(1) ~~Been determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to be a~~ A one hundred percent (100%) totally and permanently disabled service-connected veteran; or

(2) ~~Been determined by the department to be a permanently disabled service-connected veteran who is the recipient of the Purple Heart medal as a result of his or her service-connected disability~~ For purposes of subsection (f) of this section only, a disabled veteran who:

(A) Has a service-connected disability rating of seventy-percent (70%) or higher; or

(B) Has a service-connected disability rating of fifty percent (50%) or higher and is a recipient of the Purple Heart medal.

(d) A disabled veteran may obtain a lifetime license to hunt or a lifetime license to fish under this section by:

(1) Applying to the ~~Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission~~ commission;

(2) Furnishing information required by the commission to verify eligibility; and

(3) ~~Payment of~~ Paying the following fees:

(A) One dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) for a lifetime hunting license; and

(B) One dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) for a lifetime fishing license.

(e) A lifetime hunting license, ~~to hunt or a~~ lifetime fishing license, ~~to fish or~~ lifetime combination hunting and fishing license issued under this section shall:

(1) Be in the same form and contain the same information as other hunting licenses or fishing licenses issued by the commission;

(2) Contain any other information required by the commission;
and

(3) Be plainly stamped either:

(A) "DISABLED VETERAN"; or

(B) "DISABLED VETERAN – PURPLE HEART".

(f) ~~The commission may promulgate such rules and regulations as necessary to carry out the intent of this section.~~ A disabled veteran may obtain a lifetime combination hunting and fishing license, which includes a lifetime trout stamp and a lifetime state duck stamp, under this section by:

(1) Applying to the commission;

(2) Furnishing information required by the commission to verify eligibility; and

(3) Paying a fee of fifty-two dollars and fifty cents (\$52.50).

(g) The commission may promulgate rules as necessary to implement this section.

/s/D. Wallace

APPROVED: 4/5/19