

ASSEMBLY, No. 605

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN DIMAIO

District 23 (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren)

Assemblywoman BETTYLOU DECROCE

District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Peterson, Space, Wirths and Peters

SYNOPSIS

Provides discounted hunting and trapping license, permit, and stamp fees for senior citizens.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning hunting and trapping license, permit, and stamp
2 fees for senior citizens and amending various parts of the
3 statutory law.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. R.S.23:3-4 is amended to read as follows:

9 23:3-4. The licenses issued under this article shall be as follows:

10 a. A license issued to a person above 16 years of age, who has
11 an actual and bona fide domicile in this State at the time of the
12 application for the license and who has had an actual and bona fide
13 domicile in this State for at least six months immediately prior
14 thereto, provided that for a resident's trapping license the person
15 shall be above 12 years of age. These licenses shall be designated
16 as the resident's firearm hunting license, the resident's bow and
17 arrow license, the resident's trapping license, and the resident's
18 fishing license.

19 (1) The resident's firearm hunting license shall authorize its
20 holder to hunt with hounds and firearms only, and a fee of \$26.50
21 and an issuance fee of \$1.00 shall be charged therefor, except that a
22 person above the age of 65 years shall be charged a fee of \$14.50
23 and an issuance fee of \$1.00.

24 (2) The resident's bow and arrow license shall authorize its
25 holder to hunt with bow and arrow only, and a fee of \$30.50 and an
26 issuance fee of \$1.00 shall be charged therefor, except that a person
27 above the age of 65 years shall be charged a fee of \$15.50 and an
28 issuance fee of \$1.00.

29 (3) The resident's trapping license shall authorize its holder to
30 trap only, and a fee of \$31.50 and an issuance fee of \$1.00 shall be
31 charged therefor, except that (a) a person above the age of 65 years
32 shall be charged a fee of \$16.50 and an issuance fee of \$1.00, and
33 (b) a person above 12 years and under 16 years of age shall be
34 charged no fee.

35 (4) The resident's fishing license shall authorize its holder to
36 fish only, and a fee of \$21.50 and an issuance fee of \$1.00 shall be
37 charged therefor, except that (a) in any case where the applicant is
38 above 70 years of age and is otherwise qualified, no license shall be
39 required, and (b) a person above 65 years and under 70 years of age
40 shall be charged a fee of \$11.50 and an issuance fee of \$1.00.

41 (5) Any resident of this State who is afflicted with total
42 blindness, upon application to the division, shall be entitled to a
43 resident's fishing license without fee or charge.

44 b. A license issued to a person above 16 years of age not
45 entitled to a resident's license, authorizing him to trap or to hunt,

**EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 except that a nonresident's two-day small game firearm hunting
2 license shall not permit the taking, hunting, or killing of deer or
3 turkey. These licenses shall be designated as the nonresident's
4 firearm hunting license, the nonresident's bow and arrow license,
5 the nonresident's trapping license, and the nonresident's two-day
6 small game firearm hunting license.

7 (1) The fees for the nonresident's firearm hunting license and
8 the nonresident's bow and arrow license shall each be \$134.50 and
9 an issuance fee of \$1.00.

10 (2) The fee for the nonresident's trapping license shall be
11 \$199.50 and an issuance fee of \$1.00.

12 (3) The fee for a nonresident's two-day small game firearm
13 hunting license shall be \$35.50 and an issuance fee of \$1.00.

14 c. A license issued to a person above 16 years of age not
15 entitled to a resident's license, authorizing him to fish only. These
16 licenses shall be designated as the nonresident's annual fishing
17 license, the nonresident's two-day fishing license, valid for a period
18 of two consecutive days, and the nonresident's seven-day vacation
19 fishing license, valid for a period of seven consecutive days.

20 (1) The fee for the nonresident's annual fishing license shall be
21 \$33.00 and an issuance fee of \$1.00.

22 (2) The fee for the nonresident's two-day fishing license shall be
23 \$8.00 and an issuance fee of \$1.00.

24 (3) The fee for the nonresident's seven-day fishing license shall
25 be \$18.50 and an issuance fee of \$1.00.

26 d. Every license issued hereunder shall be void after December
27 31 next succeeding its issuance, except the one-day hunting license,
28 which shall expire on the date of issuance; the nonresident's seven-
29 day fishing license, which is valid only for seven consecutive days
30 after date of issuance; the nonresident's two-day fishing license,
31 which shall expire on the day after the date of issuance; and the
32 nonresident's two-day small game firearm hunting license, which
33 shall expire on the day after the date of issuance.

34 Any license issued hereunder to a person under 16 years of age
35 shall be void after December 31 of the year in which the licensee
36 becomes 16 years of age.

37 e. The fees for licenses set forth in this section may be adjusted
38 by the Fish and Game Council pursuant to section 12 of P.L.1982,
39 c.180 (C.23:3-1a).

40 (cf: P.L.1999, c.282, s.10)

41
42 2. Section 1 of P.L.1959, c.37 (C.23:3-56.1) is amended to read
43 as follows:

44 1. a. When the Fish and Game Council has established a
45 season for deer of either sex and has fixed a certain number of
46 permits to be issued for that harvest, the division is authorized to
47 charge a fee of \$26.00, or as adjusted by the Fish and Game Council
48 pursuant to section 12 of P.L.1982, c.180 (C.23:3-1a), except that a

1 person under 16 years of age or above 65 years of age shall be
2 charged a fee of \$10.00, for each permit so issued, which fee shall
3 be in addition to any other fees authorized by law.

4 b. (1) No such fee charged pursuant to subsection a. of this
5 section shall be required of a qualified farmer or the spouse or
6 children of that farmer who reside in the farmer's household,
7 provided that the person or persons are otherwise authorized to
8 participate in the limited harvest.

9 The exemption provided under this subsection:

10 (a) shall not apply to a person residing on the farm or in a tenant
11 house thereon who is not the spouse or a child of the qualified
12 farmer, nor to an employee of the qualified farmer;

13 (b) shall be limited to one permit each for the qualified farmer
14 who owns or leases a farm on which the farmer resides as described
15 in subparagraph (a) of paragraph (3) of this subsection, and the
16 spouse and children of that farmer; and

17 (c) shall be limited to one permit each for the qualified farmer
18 or farmers who owns or leases a farm or farms on which that farmer
19 or farmers does not reside as described in subparagraph (b) of
20 paragraph (3) of this subsection, and their spouses and children, but
21 in no case shall more than five permits in total be issued for such
22 property pursuant to this subparagraph.

23 (2) An application for a permit issued to a qualified farmer or
24 the spouse or a child of that farmer pursuant to this subsection shall
25 be made on a form supplied by the division and shall include, in the
26 case of leased land, a copy of all leases authorizing the agricultural
27 and hunting uses of the land.

28 (3) For purposes of this subsection, "qualified farmer" means a
29 person who:

30 (a) owns or leases a farm on which that person resides that is
31 valued, assessed and taxed as land actively devoted to agricultural
32 or horticultural use pursuant to the "Farmland Assessment Act of
33 1964," P.L.1964, c.48 (C.54:4-23.1 et seq.); or

34 (b) owns or leases a farm on which that person does not reside,
35 provided that: (i) the person actively farms at least 30 tilled, non-
36 woodland acres, which may be noncontiguous; and (ii) the farm, or
37 each parcel in the case of noncontiguous parcels, is valued, assessed
38 and taxed as land actively devoted to agricultural or horticultural
39 use pursuant to the "Farmland Assessment Act of 1964," P.L.1964,
40 c.48 (C.54:4-23.1 et seq.).

41 c. The division may adopt, pursuant to the "Administrative
42 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), such rules
43 and regulations as may be necessary to implement the provisions of
44 this section.

45 (cf: P.L.1999, c.282, s.17)

46
47 3. Section 3 of P.L.1975, c.117 (C.23:3-61.3) is amended to
48 read as follows:

1 3. The fee for this stamp shall be \$40.00, or as adjusted by the
2 Fish and Game Council pursuant to section 12 of P.L.1982,
3 c.180 (C.23:3-1a) , except that a person above 65 years of age shall
4 be charged a fee of \$20.00. The amounts remitted to the State
5 Treasury for special pheasant and quail stamps shall be deposited to
6 the credit of the "hunters' and anglers' license fund."
7 (cf: P.L.1999, c.282, s.21)

8
9 4. Section 11 of P.L.1982, c.180 (C.23:3-1.1) is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 11. a. The division shall issue a special license combining the
12 resident's firearm hunting license, the resident's bow and arrow
13 license and the resident's fishing license as provided under
14 R.S.23:3-4 into one license to be designated as the "All Around
15 Sportsman License."

16 b. The "All Around Sportsman License" shall authorize its
17 holder to hunt with a shotgun or bow and arrow and to angle or
18 attempt to take fish in the fresh waters of this State at the time, and
19 in the manner, provided by law and the State Fish and Game Code,
20 except that this license shall not authorize its holder to take trout
21 from the fresh waters of the State.

22 c. A resident of this State above the age of 16 years may
23 procure the "All Around Sportsman License" from the division at
24 Trenton or from its agents as designated by the division. It shall not
25 be valid unless it contains the signature of the owner written in ink.
26 Each license issued under this section shall expire on December 31
27 next following its issuance.

28 d. The division shall determine the form of the "All Around
29 Sportsman License." The fee for this license shall be \$71.25 and an
30 issuance fee of \$1.00, or as adjusted by the Fish and Game Council
31 pursuant to section 12 of P.L.1982, c.180 (C.23:3-1a), except that a
32 person above 65 years of age shall be charged a fee of \$35.00 and
33 an issuance fee of \$1.00. The amounts remitted to the State
34 Treasury from the collection of this fee shall be deposited to the
35 credit of the "hunters' and anglers' license fund."

36 (cf: P.L.1999, c.282, s.7)

37
38 5. Section 7 of P.L.1986, c.198 (C.23:3-27.1) is amended to
39 read as follows:

40 7. Whenever an open season is prescribed for wild turkey by
41 the State Fish and Game Code, the division is authorized to charge a
42 fee of \$19.00, or as adjusted by the Fish and Game Council
43 pursuant to section 12 of P.L.1982, c.180 (C.23:3-1a), except that a
44 person under 16 years of age or above 65 years of age shall be
45 charged a fee of \$10.00, for each permit issued. This permit shall
46 be void at the close of the prescribed open season. The amounts

1 remitted to the State Treasury for wild turkey permits shall be
2 deposited to the credit of the "hunters' and anglers' license fund."
3 (cf: P.L.1999, c.282, s.15)

4
5 6. Section 8 of P.L.1986, c.198 (C.23:3-4.11) is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 8. All persons in possession of a muzzleloader rifle or other
8 rifle while hunting or trapping shall have in their possession, in
9 addition to the appropriate and valid firearm hunting license or
10 trapping license, an appropriate and valid rifle permit. The division
11 is authorized to charge a fee of \$17.00 for each permit issued,
12 except that a person under 16 years of age or above 65 years of age
13 shall be charged a fee of \$8.00. A rifle permit issued hereunder
14 shall be valid for a period not to exceed two years. The amount
15 remitted to the State Treasury for rifle permits shall be deposited to
16 the credit of the "hunters' and anglers' license fund."

17 The fee for a permit issued pursuant to this section may be
18 adjusted by the Fish and Game Council pursuant to section 12 of
19 P.L.1982, c.180 (C.23:3-1a).
20 (cf: P.L.1999, c.282, s.13)

21
22 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

23
24
25 STATEMENT

26
27 Under current law, persons age 65 and older receive discounts on
28 firearm licenses and bow and arrow licenses, but not on trapping
29 licenses, the "All-Around Sportsman License," or individual
30 hunting permits and stamps. This bill would provide discounts to
31 persons 65 years of age and older on trapping licenses, the "All-
32 Around Sportsman License," the deer, turkey, and rifle permits, and
33 the pheasant and quail stamps, at rates which are consistent with the
34 discounts already authorized for other closely related outdoor
35 activities.