

SENATE, No. 2906

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Exempts certain veterans from field or live-fire range portion of hunter gun safety course.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning gun safety course for veterans and amending
2 P.L.1954, c.57.

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

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7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1954, c.57 (C.23:3-4.2) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 1. a. Notwithstanding any provisions contained in sections
10 23:3-1 to 23:3-22 of the Revised Statutes, concerning the issuance
11 of resident or nonresident firearm hunting licenses, at the time an
12 application for a firearm hunting license that is not an apprentice
13 license is made by an applicant above the age of 10, to whom a
14 license other than an apprentice license has not previously been
15 issued, such applicant shall present to the issuing agent a certificate
16 stating that the applicant has satisfactorily completed a course in
17 gun safety, which shall be signed by an agent of the Division of
18 Fish and Wildlife designated for the purpose whose fitness to give
19 instructions in safe gun handling has been determined by the
20 Division of Fish and Wildlife of the Department of Environmental
21 Protection. A person above the age of 10 who previously has held a
22 license to engage in hunting, other than an apprentice license, shall
23 not be entitled to purchase another such license in a subsequent year
24 unless at the time of making application he shall submit to the
25 license issuing agent his license of a previous year, or a certification
26 from the Division of Fish and Wildlife stating that he held such a
27 license.

28 b. An applicant for an apprentice firearm hunting license shall
29 be exempt from the requirement to show that the person has
30 completed a course in gun safety as provided in subsection a. of this
31 section.

32 c. A veteran shall not be required to complete the field or live-
33 fire range portion of the course in gun safety in order to receive the
34 certificate required pursuant to subsection a. of this section. The
35 division may require the veteran to provide proof of service and
36 honorable discharge prior to authorizing the exemption pursuant to
37 this subsection.

38 d. As used in this section, "veteran" means any resident of the
39 State who has been honorably discharged or released under
40 honorable circumstances from active military service in any of the
41 Armed Forces of the United States, or reserves component thereof,
42 or any honorably discharged member of the American Merchant
43 Marine who served during World War II and is declared by the
44 United States Department of Defense to be eligible for federal
45 veterans' benefits.

46 (cf: P.L.2015, c.83, s.4)

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 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6 The bill exempts a veteran from completing the field or live-fire
7 range portion of the required course in gun safety. The bill also
8 allows the Division of Fish and Wildlife to require the veteran to
9 provide proof of service and honorable discharge prior to the
10 division's authorization of the exemption. The bill defines
11 "veteran" as any resident of the State who has been honorably
12 discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active
13 military service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, or
14 reserves component thereof, or any honorably discharged member
15 of the American Merchant Marine who served during World War II
16 and is declared by the United States Department of Defense to be
17 eligible for federal veterans' benefits.