



99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

HB3749

by Rep. Avery Bourne

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

515 ILCS 5/20-45

from Ch. 56, par. 20-45

Amends the Fish and Aquatic Life Code. Provides that a veteran who holds proof of a service-connected disability from the federal Department of Veterans Affairs, and whose degree of disability has been declared to be 50% or more, shall be eligible for a 50% reduction in the fees for a lifetime fishing license, lifetime hunting license, and lifetime sportsmen's combination license. The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs may assist in providing the documentation of disability.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning fish.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Fish and Aquatic Life Code is amended by
5 changing Section 20-45 as follows:

6 (515 ILCS 5/20-45) (from Ch. 56, par. 20-45)

7 Sec. 20-45. License fees for residents. Fees for licenses
8 for residents of the State of Illinois shall be as follows:

9 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this Section, for
10 sport fishing devices as defined in Section 10-95 or
11 spearing devices as defined in Section 10-110, the fee is
12 \$14.50 for individuals 16 to 64 years old, one-half of the
13 current fishing license fee for individuals age 65 or
14 older, and, commencing with the 2012 license year, one-half
15 of the current fishing license fee for resident veterans of
16 the United States Armed Forces after returning from service
17 abroad or mobilization by the President of the United
18 States. Veterans must provide, to the Department at one of
19 the Department's 5 regional offices, verification of their
20 service. The Department shall establish what constitutes
21 suitable verification of service for the purpose of issuing
22 fishing licenses to resident veterans at a reduced fee.

23 (a-5) The fee for all sport fishing licenses shall be

1 \$1 for residents over 75 years of age.

2 (b) All residents before using any commercial fishing
3 device shall obtain a commercial fishing license, the fee
4 for which shall be \$60 and a resident fishing license, the
5 fee for which is \$14.50. Each and every commercial device
6 used shall be licensed by a resident commercial fisherman
7 as follows:

8 (1) For each 100 lineal yards, or fraction thereof,
9 of seine the fee is \$18. For each minnow seine, minnow
10 trap, or net for commercial purposes the fee is \$20.

11 (2) For each device to fish with a 100 hook trot
12 line device, basket trap, hoop net, or dip net the fee
13 is \$3.

14 (3) When used in the waters of Lake Michigan, for
15 the first 2000 lineal feet, or fraction thereof, of
16 gill net the fee is \$10; and for each 1000 additional
17 lineal feet, or fraction thereof, the fee is \$10. These
18 fees shall apply to all gill nets in use in the water
19 or on drying reels on the shore.

20 (4) For each 100 lineal yards, or fraction thereof,
21 of gill net or trammel net the fee is \$18.

22 (c) Residents of the State of Illinois may obtain a
23 sportsmen's combination license that shall entitle the
24 holder to the same non-commercial fishing privileges as
25 residents holding a license as described in subsection (a)
26 of this Section and to the same hunting privileges as

1 residents holding a license to hunt all species as
2 described in Section 3.1 of the Wildlife Code. No
3 sportsmen's combination license shall be issued to any
4 individual who would be ineligible for either the fishing
5 or hunting license separately. The sportsmen's combination
6 license fee shall be \$25.50. For residents age 65 or older,
7 the fee is one-half of the fee charged for a sportsmen's
8 combination license. For resident veterans of the United
9 States Armed Forces after returning from service abroad or
10 mobilization by the President of the United States, the
11 fee, commencing with the 2012 license year, is one-half of
12 the fee charged for a sportsmen's combination license.
13 Veterans must provide to the Department, at one of the
14 Department's 5 regional offices, verification of their
15 service. The Department shall establish what constitutes
16 suitable verification of service for the purpose of issuing
17 sportsmen's combination licenses to resident veterans at a
18 reduced fee.

19 (d) For 24 hours of fishing by sport fishing devices as
20 defined in Section 10-95 or by spearing devices as defined
21 in Section 10-110 the fee is \$5. This license does not
22 exempt the licensee from the requirement for a salmon or
23 inland trout stamp. The licenses provided for by this
24 subsection are not required for residents of the State of
25 Illinois who have obtained the license provided for in
26 subsection (a) of this Section.

1 (e) All residents before using any commercial mussel
2 device shall obtain a commercial mussel license, the fee
3 for which shall be \$50.

4 (f) Residents of this State, upon establishing
5 residency as required by the Department, may obtain a
6 lifetime hunting or fishing license or lifetime
7 sportsmen's combination license which shall entitle the
8 holder to the same non-commercial fishing privileges as
9 residents holding a license as described in paragraph (a)
10 of this Section and to the same hunting privileges as
11 residents holding a license to hunt all species as
12 described in Section 3.1 of the Wildlife Code. No lifetime
13 sportsmen's combination license shall be issued to or
14 retained by any individual who would be ineligible for
15 either the fishing or hunting license separately, either
16 upon issuance, or in any year a violation would subject an
17 individual to have either or both fishing or hunting
18 privileges rescinded. Except as provided otherwise in this
19 subsection, the ~~The~~ lifetime hunting and fishing license
20 fees shall be as follows:

21 (1) Lifetime fishing: 30 x the current fishing
22 license fee.

23 (2) Lifetime hunting: 30 x the current hunting
24 license fee.

25 (3) Lifetime sportsmen's combination license: 30 x
26 the current sportsmen's combination license fee.

1 Lifetime licenses shall not be refundable. A \$10 fee shall
2 be charged for reissuing any lifetime license. The Department
3 may establish rules and regulations for the issuance and use of
4 lifetime licenses and may suspend or revoke any lifetime
5 license issued under this Section for violations of those rules
6 or regulations or other provisions under this Code or the
7 Wildlife Code. Individuals under 16 years of age who possess a
8 lifetime hunting or sportsmen's combination license shall have
9 in their possession, while in the field, a certificate of
10 competency as required under Section 3.2 of the Wildlife Code.
11 Any lifetime license issued under this Section shall not exempt
12 individuals from obtaining additional stamps or permits
13 required under the provisions of this Code or the Wildlife
14 Code. Individuals required to purchase additional stamps shall
15 sign the stamps and have them in their possession while fishing
16 or hunting with a lifetime license. All fees received from the
17 issuance of lifetime licenses shall be deposited in the Fish
18 and Wildlife Endowment Fund.

19 A veteran who holds proof of a service-connected disability
20 from the federal Department of Veterans Affairs, and whose
21 degree of disability has been declared to be 50% or more, shall
22 be eligible for a 50% reduction in the fees for a lifetime
23 fishing license, lifetime hunting license, and lifetime
24 sportsmen's combination license. The Illinois Department of
25 Veterans' Affairs may assist in providing the documentation of
26 disability.

1 Except for licenses issued under subsection (e) of this
2 Section, all licenses provided for in this Section shall expire
3 on March 31 of each year, except that the license provided for
4 in subsection (d) of this Section shall expire 24 hours after
5 the effective date and time listed on the face of the license.

6 All individuals required to have and failing to have the
7 license provided for in subsection (a) or (d) of this Section
8 shall be fined according to the provisions of Section 20-35 of
9 this Code.

10 All individuals required to have and failing to have the
11 licenses provided for in subsections (b) and (e) of this
12 Section shall be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

13 (Source: P.A. 97-498, eff. 4-1-12; 97-1136, eff. 1-1-13;
14 98-800, eff. 8-1-14.)