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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 3046

02/03/2022

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to game and fish; providing free game and fish licenses to active duty

1.3 members of the military and to honorably discharged military veterans; amending

1.4 Minnesota Statutes 2020, sections 97A.441, subdivisions 5, 6, 6a; 171.07,

1.5 subdivision 17; Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, sections 97B.715, subdivision

1.6 1; 97B.801.

1.7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.8 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 97A.441, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

1.9 Subd. 5. **Angling; disabled active duty members of the military and veterans.** (a) A

1.10 person authorized to issue licenses must issue, without a fee, a ~~permanent~~ license to take

1.11 fish by angling to a resident who is a ~~veteran, as defined in section 197.447, and that has a~~

1.12 ~~100 percent service connected disability as defined by the United States Veterans~~

1.13 ~~Administration upon being furnished satisfactory evidence~~ currently in active military

1.14 service or who has been honorably discharged from active military service as evidenced by

1.15 the most recent form DD-214.

1.16 (b) ~~A driver's license or Minnesota identification card bearing the designation under~~

1.17 ~~section 171.07, subdivision 15, paragraph (a), clause (2), serves as satisfactory evidence to~~

1.18 ~~obtain a license under this subdivision at all agent locations.~~

1.19 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 97A.441, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

1.20 Subd. 6. **Taking deer; disabled active duty members of the military and veterans.** (a)

1.21 A person authorized to issue licenses must issue, without a fee, a license to take deer with

1.22 firearms or by archery to a resident that is a ~~veteran, as defined in section 197.447, and that~~

1.23 ~~has a 100 percent service connected disability as defined by the United States Veterans~~

2.1 ~~Administration upon being furnished satisfactory evidence~~ currently in active military
 2.2 service or who has been honorably discharged from active military service as evidenced by
 2.3 the most recent form DD-214.

2.4 ~~(b) The commissioner, upon request, must issue a permanent card documenting~~
 2.5 ~~satisfactory evidence of 100 percent permanently disabled status.~~

2.6 ~~(c) The following serve as satisfactory evidence to obtain a license under this subdivision~~
 2.7 ~~at all agent locations:~~

2.8 ~~(1) a card issued under paragraph (b); or~~

2.9 ~~(2) a driver's license or Minnesota identification card bearing the designation under~~
 2.10 ~~section 171.07, subdivision 15, paragraph (a), clause (2).~~

2.11 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 97A.441, subdivision 6a, is amended to read:

2.12 Subd. 6a. **Taking small game; disabled active duty members of the military and**
 2.13 **veterans.** ~~(a) A person authorized to issue licenses must issue, without a fee, a license to~~
 2.14 ~~take small game to a resident who is a veteran, as defined in section 197.447, and who has~~
 2.15 ~~a 100 percent service connected disability as defined by the United States Veterans~~
 2.16 ~~Administration upon being furnished satisfactory evidence~~ currently in active military
 2.17 service or who has been honorably discharged from active military service as evidenced by
 2.18 the most recent form DD-214.

2.19 ~~(b) The commissioner, upon request, must issue a permanent card documenting~~
 2.20 ~~satisfactory evidence of 100 percent permanently disabled status.~~

2.21 ~~(c) The following serve as satisfactory evidence to obtain a license under this subdivision~~
 2.22 ~~at all agent locations:~~

2.23 ~~(1) a card issued under paragraph (b); or~~

2.24 ~~(2) a driver's license or Minnesota identification card bearing the designation under~~
 2.25 ~~section 171.07, subdivision 15, paragraph (a), clause (2).~~

2.26 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 97B.715, subdivision 1, is amended
 2.27 to read:

2.28 Subdivision 1. **Stamp required.** (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) or section
 2.29 97A.405, subdivision 2, a person required to possess a small-game license may not hunt
 2.30 pheasants without a pheasant stamp validation.

2.31 (b) The following persons are exempt from this subdivision:

- 3.1 (1) residents and nonresidents under age 18 and residents over age 65;
- 3.2 (2) persons hunting on licensed commercial shooting preserves;
- 3.3 (3) resident ~~disabled~~ active duty members of the military or veterans with a license issued
- 3.4 under section 97A.441, subdivision 6a; and
- 3.5 (4) residents and nonresidents hunting on licenses issued under section 97A.475,
- 3.6 subdivision 2, clause (20); or 3, paragraph (a), clause (16).

3.7 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 97B.801, is amended to read:

3.8 **97B.801 MINNESOTA MIGRATORY-WATERFOWL STAMP REQUIRED.**

3.9 (a) Except as provided in this section or section 97A.405, subdivision 2, a person required

3.10 to possess a small-game license may not take migratory waterfowl without a

3.11 migratory-waterfowl stamp validation.

3.12 (b) Residents under age 18 or over age 65; resident ~~disabled~~ active duty members of the

3.13 military and veterans with a license issued under section 97A.441, subdivision 6a; and

3.14 persons hunting on their own property are not required to possess a stamp validation under

3.15 this section.

3.16 (c) Residents and nonresidents with licenses issued under section 97A.475, subdivision

3.17 2, clause (20); or 3, paragraph (a), clause (16), are not required to possess a stamp validation

3.18 under this section.

3.19 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 171.07, subdivision 17, is amended to read:

3.20 Subd. 17. **Disability designation.** At the request of an applicant with permanent eligibility

3.21 for a disability designation and on payment of the required fee, the department shall issue,

3.22 renew, or reissue to the applicant a driver's license or Minnesota identification card bearing

3.23 a physical disability designation based on the following medical ~~conditions~~ condition:

3.24 ~~(1) type 1, to an applicant who is permanently blind or disabled and meets the~~

3.25 ~~requirements for a free license to take fish under section 97A.441, subdivision 1, paragraph~~

3.26 ~~(a), clause (1), (4), (5), or (6); or~~

3.27 ~~(2)~~ type 2, to an applicant who permanently meets the requirements for disability under

3.28 section 97B.111, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (1), item (i).