



Sen. Patrick J. Joyce

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10400SB0710sam001

LRB104 07008 BDA 25367 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 710

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend Senate Bill 710 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Wildlife Code is amended by changing  
5 Sections 2.26, 2.37, and 3.1-6 as follows:

6 (520 ILCS 5/2.26) (from Ch. 61, par. 2.26)

7 Sec. 2.26. Deer hunting permits. Any person attempting to  
8 take deer shall first obtain a "Deer Hunting Permit" issued by  
9 the Department in accordance with its administrative rules.  
10 Those rules must provide for the issuance of the following  
11 types of resident deer archery permits: (i) a combination  
12 permit, consisting of one either-sex permit and one  
13 antlerless-only permit, (ii) a single antlerless-only permit,  
14 and (iii) a single either-sex permit. The fee for a Deer  
15 Hunting Permit to take deer with either bow and arrow or gun  
16 shall not exceed \$25 for residents of the State. The

1 Department may by administrative rule provide for non-resident  
2 deer hunting permits for which the fee will not exceed \$300 in  
3 2005, \$350 in 2006, and \$400 in 2007 and thereafter except as  
4 provided below for non-resident landowners and non-resident  
5 archery hunters. The Department may by administrative rule  
6 provide for a non-resident archery deer permit consisting of  
7 not more than 2 harvest tags at a total cost not to exceed \$325  
8 in 2005, \$375 in 2006, and \$425 in 2007 and thereafter. The  
9 fees for a youth resident and non-resident archery deer permit  
10 shall be the same.

11 The Department shall create a pilot program during the  
12 special 3-day, youth-only deer hunting season to allow for  
13 youth deer hunting permits that are valid statewide, excluding  
14 those counties or portions of counties closed to firearm deer  
15 hunting. The Department shall adopt rules to implement the  
16 pilot program. Hunters qualifying to participate in a  
17 youth-only deer season shall be eligible for one either-sex  
18 permit and one antlerless-only permit. Nothing in this  
19 paragraph shall be construed to prohibit the Department from  
20 issuing Special Hunt Area Permits for the youth-only deer  
21 hunting season or establishing, through administrative rule,  
22 additional requirements pertaining to the youth-only deer  
23 hunting season on Department-owned or Department-managed  
24 sites, including site-specific quotas or drawings. The  
25 provisions of this paragraph are inoperative on and after  
26 January 1, 2023.

1           The standards and specifications for use of guns and bow  
2 and arrow for deer hunting shall be established by  
3 administrative rule.

4           No person may have in his or her possession any firearm not  
5 authorized by administrative rule for a specific hunting  
6 season when taking deer unless in accordance with the Firearm  
7 Concealed Carry Act.

8           Persons having a firearm deer hunting permit shall be  
9 permitted to take deer only during the period from 1/2 hour  
10 before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset, and only during those  
11 days for which an open season is established for the taking of  
12 deer by use of shotgun, handgun, rifle, or muzzle loading  
13 rifle.

14           Persons having an archery deer hunting permit shall be  
15 permitted to take deer only during the period from 1/2 hour  
16 before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset, and only during those  
17 days for which an open season is established for the taking of  
18 deer by use of bow and arrow.

19           It shall be unlawful for any person to take deer by use of  
20 dogs, horses, automobiles, aircraft, or other vehicles, or by  
21 the use or aid of bait or baiting of any kind. For the purposes  
22 of this Section, "bait" means any material, whether liquid or  
23 solid, including food, salt, minerals, and other products,  
24 except pure water, that can be ingested, placed, or scattered  
25 in such a manner as to attract or lure white-tailed deer.  
26 "Baiting" means the placement or scattering of bait to attract

1 deer. An area is considered as baited during the presence of  
2 and for 10 consecutive days following the removal of bait.  
3 Nothing in this Section shall prohibit the use of a dog to  
4 track wounded deer. Any person using a dog for tracking  
5 wounded deer must maintain physical control of the dog at all  
6 times by means of a maximum 50-foot ~~50-foot~~ lead attached to  
7 the dog's collar or harness. Tracking wounded deer is  
8 permissible at night, but at no time outside of legal deer  
9 hunting hours or seasons shall any person handling or  
10 accompanying a dog being used for tracking wounded deer be in  
11 possession of any firearm or archery device. Persons tracking  
12 wounded deer with a dog during the firearm deer seasons shall  
13 wear blaze orange or solid blaze pink color as required. Dog  
14 handlers tracking wounded deer with a dog are exempt from  
15 hunting license and deer permit requirements so long as they  
16 are accompanied by the licensed deer hunter who wounded the  
17 deer.

18 It shall be unlawful to possess or transport any wild deer  
19 which has been injured or killed in any manner upon a public  
20 highway or public right-of-way of this State unless exempted  
21 by administrative rule.

22 Persons hunting deer must have the gun unloaded and no bow  
23 and arrow device shall be carried with the arrow in the nocked  
24 position during hours when deer hunting is unlawful.

25 It shall be unlawful for any person, having taken the  
26 legal limit of deer by gun, to further participate with a gun

1 in any deer hunting party.

2 It shall be unlawful for any person, having taken the  
3 legal limit of deer by bow and arrow, to further participate  
4 with bow and arrow in any deer hunting party.

5 The Department may prohibit upland game hunting during the  
6 gun deer season by administrative rule.

7 The Department shall not limit the number of non-resident,  
8 either-sex archery deer hunting permits to less than 20,000.

9 Any person who violates any of the provisions of this  
10 Section, including administrative rules, shall be guilty of a  
11 Class B misdemeanor.

12 For the purposes of calculating acreage under this  
13 Section, the Department shall, after determining the total  
14 acreage of the applicable tract or tracts of land, round  
15 remaining fractional portions of an acre greater than or equal  
16 to half of an acre up to the next whole acre.

17 For the purposes of taking white-tailed deer, nothing in  
18 this Section shall be construed to prevent the manipulation,  
19 including mowing or cutting, of standing crops as a normal  
20 agricultural or soil stabilization practice, food plots, or  
21 normal agricultural practices, including planting, harvesting,  
22 and maintenance such as cultivating or the use of products  
23 designed for scent only and not capable of ingestion, solid or  
24 liquid, placed or scattered, in such a manner as to attract or  
25 lure deer. Such manipulation for the purpose of taking  
26 white-tailed deer may be further modified by administrative

1 rule.

2 (Source: P.A. 101-81, eff. 7-12-19; 101-444, eff. 6-1-20;  
3 102-237, eff. 1-1-22; 102-932, eff. 1-1-23; revised 10-23-24.)

4 (520 ILCS 5/2.37) (from Ch. 61, par. 2.37)

5 Sec. 2.37. Authority to kill wildlife responsible for  
6 damage.

7 (a) Subject to federal regulations and Section 3 of the  
8 Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act, the Department may  
9 authorize owners and tenants of lands or their agents, who are  
10 performing the service without fee or compensation, to remove  
11 or destroy any wild bird or wild mammal when the wild bird or  
12 wild mammal is known to be destroying property or causing a  
13 risk to human health or safety upon his or her land.

14 Upon receipt by the Department of information from the  
15 owner, tenant, or sharecropper that any one or more species of  
16 wildlife is damaging dams, levees, ditches, cattle pastures,  
17 or other property on the land on which he resides or controls,  
18 together with a statement regarding location of the property  
19 damages, the nature and extent of the damage, and the  
20 particular species of wildlife committing the damage, the  
21 Department shall make an investigation.

22 If, after investigation, the Department finds that damage  
23 or risk to human safety does exist and can be abated only by  
24 removing or destroying that wildlife, a permit shall be issued  
25 by the Department to remove or destroy the species responsible

1 for causing the damage.

2 A permit to control the damage shall be for a period set by  
3 administrative rule ~~of up to 90 days~~, shall specify the means  
4 and methods by which and the person or persons by whom the  
5 wildlife may be removed or destroyed, without fee or  
6 compensation for the initial permits issued to a landowner or  
7 tenant, and shall set forth the disposition procedure to be  
8 made of all wildlife taken and other restrictions the Director  
9 considers necessary and appropriate in the circumstances of  
10 the particular case. Whenever possible, the specimens  
11 destroyed shall be given to a bona fide public or State  
12 scientific, educational, or zoological institution.

13 The permittee shall advise the Department in writing, as  
14 set by administrative rule ~~within 10 days after the expiration~~  
15 ~~date of the permit~~, of the number of individual species of  
16 wildlife taken, disposition made of them, and any other  
17 information which the Department may consider necessary.

18 The Department shall adopt rules establishing: (i)  
19 procedures and criteria for issuance; (ii) timeline for  
20 issuance of permits; (iii) method of take; (iv) disposition of  
21 remains; (v) reporting; (vi) evaluation of damage; (vii) cost;  
22 (viii) suspension or revocation of permits; (ix) denial of  
23 permits; and (x) renewal of permits issued under this Section.  
24 The Department shall adopt rules that allow landowners to have  
25 other individuals, that meet all requirements set forth in  
26 this Act, destroy deer authorized under permits issued to that

1 landowner under this Section. The Department shall adopt rules  
2 allowing the automatic issuance of additional antlerless-only  
3 permits during the regular firearm or archery season of that  
4 year if a landowner demonstrates proof of successfully  
5 harvesting 50% of the permits issued from a permit issued  
6 under this Section to destroy deer in that same calendar year.  
7 The Department shall adopt rules allowing the automatic  
8 eligibility for additional permits to be issued in the  
9 following calendar year for use between June 1 through  
10 September 15 if a landowner demonstrates proof of harvesting  
11 80% of the permits that were issued under this Section that  
12 were issued to the landowner for the previous year's regular  
13 firearm and archery deer hunting seasons.

14 (b) Subject to federal regulations and Section 3 of the  
15 Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act, the Department may  
16 grant the authority to control species protected by this Code  
17 pursuant to the issuance of a Nuisance Wildlife Control Permit  
18 to:

19 (1) any person who is providing such service or  
20 solicits customers for themselves or on behalf of a  
21 nuisance wildlife control permit holder for a fee or  
22 compensation;

23 (2) a governmental body; or

24 (3) a nonprofit or other charitable organization.

25 The Department shall set forth applicable regulations in  
26 an Administrative rule ~~Order~~ and may require periodic reports

1 listing species taken, numbers of each species taken, dates  
2 when taken, and other pertinent information.

3 Any person operating under a Nuisance Wildlife Control  
4 Permit who subcontracts the operation of nuisance wildlife  
5 control to another shall ensure that such subcontractor  
6 possesses a valid Nuisance Wildlife Control Permit issued by  
7 the Department. The person must maintain a record of the  
8 subcontractor including the subcontractor's name, address, and  
9 phone number, and type of work to be performed, for a period of  
10 not less than 2 years from the date the subcontractor is no  
11 longer performing services on behalf of the person. The  
12 records shall be presented to an authorized employee of the  
13 Department or law enforcement officer upon request for  
14 inspection.

15 Any person operating without the required permit as  
16 outlined under this subsection (b) or in violation of this  
17 subsection (b) is deemed to be taking, attempting to take,  
18 disturbing, or harassing wildlife contrary to the provisions  
19 of this Code, including the taking or attempting to take such  
20 species for commercial purposes as outlined in Sections 2.36  
21 and 2.36a of this Code. Any devices and equipment, including  
22 vehicles, used in violation of this subsection (b) may be  
23 subject to the provisions of Section 1.25 of this Code.

24 Any person properly permitted and operating under the  
25 provisions of this subsection is exempt from the provisions of  
26 this Act except as limited by administrative rule adopted by

1 the Department.

2 (c) The location of traps or snares authorized under this  
3 Section, either by the Department or any other governmental  
4 body with the authority to control species protected by this  
5 Code, shall be exempt from the provisions of the Freedom of  
6 Information Act.

7 (d) A drainage district or road district or the designee  
8 of a drainage district or road district shall be exempt from  
9 the requirement to obtain a permit to control nuisance  
10 muskrats or beavers if all applicable provisions for licenses  
11 are complied with and any trap types and sizes used are in  
12 compliance with this Code, including marking or  
13 identification. The designee of a drainage district or road  
14 district must have a signed and dated written authorization  
15 from the drainage district or road district in possession at  
16 all times when conducting activities under this Section. This  
17 exemption from obtaining a permit shall be valid only upon  
18 property owned, leased, or controlled by the drainage district  
19 or road district. For the purposes of this Section, "road  
20 district" includes a township road district.

21 (e) The Department shall make available on its website the  
22 current and relevant information, criteria, and directions to  
23 the public for permits issued under this Section.

24 (Source: P.A. 102-524, eff. 8-20-21; 103-37, eff. 6-9-23;  
25 103-225, eff. 6-30-23; 103-605, eff. 7-1-24; 103-611, eff.  
26 1-1-25.)

1 (520 ILCS 5/3.1-6)

2 Sec. 3.1-6. Landowner or tenant ~~Special~~ deer and ~~and~~ turkey~~,~~  
3 ~~and combination~~ hunting permits licenses.

4 (a) For the purpose of this Section:

5 "Bona fide current income beneficiary" means an individual  
6 who, at the time of application for a permit, is:

7 (1) entitled to income, whether income exists or not,  
8 from the trust that owns Illinois land on which the  
9 applicant wishes to hunt with no condition precedent, such  
10 as surviving another person or reaching a certain age,  
11 other than the trustee distributing the income; and

12 (2) listed by name in the trust documents as an income  
13 beneficiary.

14 "Bona fide equity member" means an individual who:

15 (1) (i) became a member upon the formation of the  
16 limited liability company or (ii) has purchased a  
17 distributional interest in a limited liability company for  
18 a value equal to the percentage of the appraised value of  
19 the LLC assets represented by the distributional interest  
20 in the LLC and subsequently becomes a member of the  
21 company under Article 30 of the Limited Liability Company  
22 Act; and

23 (2) intends to retain the membership for at least 5  
24 years.

25 "Bona fide equity partner" means an individual who:

1           (1) (i) became a partner, either general or limited,  
2           upon the formation of a partnership or limited  
3           partnership, or (ii) has purchased, acquired, or been  
4           gifted a partnership interest accurately representing his  
5           or her percentage distributional interest in the profits,  
6           losses, and assets of a partnership or limited  
7           partnership;

8           (2) intends to retain ownership of the partnership  
9           interest for at least 5 years; and

10          (3) is a resident of this State.

11          "Bona fide equity shareholder" means an individual who:

12           (1) purchased, for market price, publicly sold stock  
13           shares in a corporation, purchased shares of a  
14           privately-held corporation for a value equal to the  
15           percentage of the appraised value of the corporate assets  
16           represented by the ownership in the corporation, or is a  
17           member of a closely-held family-owned corporation and has  
18           purchased or been gifted with shares of stock in the  
19           corporation accurately reflecting his or her percentage of  
20           ownership; and

21           (2) intends to retain the ownership of the shares of  
22           stock for at least 5 years.

23          "Current owners" means one or more bona fide landowners,  
24          one or more bona fide current income beneficiaries, one or  
25          more bona fide equity shareholders of a corporation, one or  
26          more bona fide equity members of a limited liability company,

1 or one or more bona fide equity partners of a partnership that  
2 all own the same 240 acres of Illinois land.

3 "Immediate family of a bona fide landowner, tenant, or a  
4 bona fide current income beneficiary" means the spouse,  
5 children, brothers, sisters, grandchildren, grandparents, and  
6 parents permanently residing on the same property as the bona  
7 fide landowner, tenant, or bona fide current income  
8 beneficiary.

9 "Tenant" means a person who rents 40 acres or more of  
10 Illinois land for commercial agricultural purposes under a  
11 written notarized agreement with the landowner.

12 (b) Landowner deer and turkey ~~Deer, Turkey, and~~  
13 ~~combination~~ permits shall be issued without charge to an  
14 Illinois resident that owns at least 40 acres of Illinois land  
15 and that wishes to hunt only on the land that Illinois resident  
16 owns. Deer permits issued under this Section shall consist of  
17 one either-sex permit and one antlerless-only permit for the  
18 deer firearm season and one either-sex permit and one  
19 antlerless-only permit for the archery deer season. Land  
20 ownership shall only be accepted by the Department for:

21 (1) bona fide Illinois landowners residing in this  
22 State who own at least 40 acres of Illinois land and wish  
23 to hunt upon their land only;

24 (2) bona fide current income beneficiaries of a trust  
25 in which the trust owns Illinois land ~~resident tenants of~~  
26 ~~at least 40 acres of commercial agricultural land where~~

1 ~~they will hunt;~~ and

2 (3) bona fide equity shareholders of a corporation,  
3 bona fide equity members of a limited liability company,  
4 or bona fide equity partners of a general or limited  
5 partnership which owns ~~at least 40 acres of land in a~~  
6 ~~county in this State who wish to hunt on the~~  
7 ~~corporation's, company's, or partnership's land only. One~~  
8 ~~permit shall be issued without charge to one bona fide~~  
9 ~~equity shareholder, one bona fide equity member, or one~~  
10 ~~bona fide equity partner for each 40 acres of land owned by~~  
11 ~~the corporation, company, or partnership in a county;~~  
12 ~~however, the number of permits issued without charge to~~  
13 ~~bona fide equity shareholders of any corporation or bona~~  
14 ~~fide equity members of a limited liability company in any~~  
15 ~~county shall not exceed 15, and shall not exceed 3 in the~~  
16 ~~case of bona fide equity partners of a partnership.~~

17 (b-5) Tenant deer and turkey permits shall be issued  
18 without charge to Illinois resident tenants of at least 40  
19 acres of commercial agricultural land that wish to hunt only  
20 on the land of which they are resident tenants. Deer permits  
21 issued under this Section shall consist of (i) one either-sex  
22 permit and one antlerless-only permit for the deer firearm  
23 season and (ii) one either-sex permit and one antlerless-only  
24 permit for the archery deer season.

25 (b-10) The total number of deer or turkey permits that may  
26 be issued to a person under this Section shall be established

1 by administrative rule.

2 (b-15) Bona fide landowners ~~or tenants~~ who do not wish to  
3 hunt only on the land they own, tenants who do not wish to hunt  
4 only on the land they rent, or lease, or bona fide equity  
5 shareholders, bona fide equity members, bona fide current  
6 income beneficiaries of a trust, or bona fide equity partners  
7 who do not wish to hunt only on the land owned by the  
8 corporation, limited liability company, trust, or partnership  
9 shall be charged the same fee as the applicant who is not a  
10 bona fide landowner, Illinois resident tenant, bona fide  
11 equity shareholder, bona fide equity member, bona fide current  
12 income beneficiary of a trust, or bona fide equity partner.  
13 Nonresidents of this State who own at least 40 acres of land as  
14 a bona fide landowner, a bona fide current income beneficiary  
15 of a trust, a bona fide equity shareholder, or a bona fide  
16 equity member and wish to hunt on their land only shall be  
17 charged a fee set by administrative rule. The method for  
18 obtaining these permits shall be prescribed by administrative  
19 rule.

20 (c) A deer or turkey ~~The deer, turkey, or combination~~  
21 hunting permit issued without fee shall be valid on all  
22 Illinois farm lands which the person to whom it is issued owns,  
23 including land owned by the individual as a bona fide  
24 landowner, land owned as a bona fide equity shareholder of a  
25 corporation, land owned by the individual as a bona fide  
26 equity member of a limited liability company, and land owned

1 by the individual as a bona fide equity partner of a  
2 partnership.

3 (d) Except for a person hunting under a permit issued  
4 under subsection (e) or (f), while hunting under a permit  
5 issued under this Section, a person must carry the permit and  
6 documentation showing proof of that the person is a bona fide  
7 landowner, a bona fide equity shareholder of a corporation, a  
8 bona fide equity member of a limited liability company, a bona  
9 fide current income beneficiary, a bona fide equity partners  
10 of a general or limited partnership, or a tenant. While  
11 hunting under a permit issued under subsection (e) or (f), a  
12 person must carry the permit and documentation showing that  
13 the person is actively hunting on land covered by the permit.

14 (e) The Department may, by administrative rule, issue  
15 permits under this Section to the immediate family of a bona  
16 fide landowner, a bona fide current income beneficiary, or  
17 tenant.

18 (f) For every 240 acres of Illinois land owned by the  
19 current owners, the Department may issue one guest either-sex  
20 deer permit and one guest antlerless-only deer permit. The  
21 guest permits shall be for the same deer hunting season and for  
22 the same method of take as issued to the current owner. A guest  
23 permit shall be issued to an individual who is not a current  
24 owner and is listed on the application for the issuance of  
25 guest deer hunting permits by a current owner. An individual  
26 designated by a current owner must meet all the eligibility

1 requirements to hunt under this Code and shall pay all fees  
2 required under Section 2.26 for the permits issued, including  
3 non-resident fees if that individual is a non-resident.  
4 Permits issued under this subsection may not be offered for  
5 resale by the landowner receiving the permit and are  
6 nontransferable. No more than 5 individuals, regardless of  
7 total number of 240 acres of Illinois land owned by the current  
8 owners, may be issued quest permits under this subsection.

9 (g) The Department may adopt rules to administer and  
10 enforce this Section, including, but not limited to,  
11 application requirements, proof of ownership requirements,  
12 proof of residency requirements, eligibility requirements,  
13 restrictions, and suspension and revocation of permits.

14 (h) No person shall be issued more than (i) one either-sex  
15 permit and one antlerless-only permit for the deer firearm  
16 season and (ii) one either-sex permit and one antlerless-only  
17 permit for the deer archery season under this Section ~~leases~~  
18 ~~or rents, except that in the case of a permit issued to a bona~~  
19 ~~fide equity shareholder, bona fide equity member, or bona fide~~  
20 ~~equity partner, the permit shall be valid on all lands owned by~~  
21 ~~the corporation, limited liability company, or partnership in~~  
22 ~~the county.~~

23 (Source: P.A. 99-869, eff. 1-1-17.)

24 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect on  
25 January 1, 2026, except that the changes to Section 3.1-6 of

1 the Wildlife Code take effect on January 1, 2027.".