



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB2049

Introduced 2/6/2025, by Sen. Neil Anderson

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

520 ILCS 5/3.1

from Ch. 61, par. 3.1

Amends the Wildlife Code. Allows owners residing on, or bona fide tenants of, farm lands and their children, parents, brothers, and sisters actually permanently residing on their lands to have the right to hunt any of the species protected by certain provisions upon their lands and waters without procuring hunting licenses year-round (rather than only during periods of time).

LRB104 10885 BDA 20967 b

1 AN ACT concerning wildlife.

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

4 Section 5. The Wildlife Code is amended by changing
5 Section 3.1 as follows:

6 (520 ILCS 5/3.1) (from Ch. 61, par. 3.1)

7 Sec. 3.1. License and stamps required.

8 (a) Before any person shall take or attempt to take any of
9 the species protected by Section 2.2 for which an open season
10 is established under this Act, he shall first have procured
11 and possess a valid hunting license, except as provided in
12 Section 3.1-5 of this Code.

13 Before any person 18 years of age or older shall take or
14 attempt to take any bird of the species defined as migratory
15 waterfowl by Section 2.2, including coots, he shall first have
16 procured a State Migratory Waterfowl Stamp.

17 Before any person 18 years of age or older takes, attempts
18 to take, or pursues any species of wildlife protected by this
19 Code, except migratory waterfowl, coots, and hand-reared birds
20 on licensed game breeding and hunting preserve areas and state
21 controlled pheasant hunting areas, he or she shall first
22 obtain a State Habitat Stamp. Any person who obtained a
23 lifetime license before January 1, 1993, shall not be required

1 to obtain State Habitat Stamps. Income from the sale of State
2 Furbearer Stamps and State Pheasant Stamps received after the
3 effective date of this amendatory Act of 1992 shall be
4 deposited into the State Furbearer Fund and State Pheasant
5 Fund, respectively.

6 Before any person 18 years of age or older shall take,
7 attempt to take, or sell the green hide of any mammal of the
8 species defined as fur-bearing mammals by Section 2.2 for
9 which an open season is established under this Act, he shall
10 first have procured a State Habitat Stamp.

11 (b) Before any person who is a non-resident of the State of
12 Illinois shall take or attempt to take any of the species
13 protected by Section 2.2 for which an open season is
14 established under this Act, he shall, unless specifically
15 exempted by law, first procure a non-resident license as
16 provided by this Act for the taking of any wild game.

17 Before a nonresident shall take or attempt to take
18 white-tailed deer, he shall first have procured a Deer Hunting
19 Permit as defined in Section 2.26 of this Code.

20 Before a nonresident shall take or attempt to take wild
21 turkeys, he shall have procured a Wild Turkey Hunting Permit
22 as defined in Section 2.11 of this Code.

23 (c) The owners residing on, or bona fide tenants of, farm
24 lands and their children, parents, brothers, and sisters
25 actually permanently residing on their lands shall have the
26 right to hunt any of the species protected by Section 2.2 upon

1 their lands and waters without procuring hunting licenses;
2 ~~year-round but the hunting shall be done only during periods~~
3 ~~of time and~~ with devices and by methods as are permitted by
4 this Act. Any person on active duty with the Armed Forces of
5 the United States who is now and who was at the time of
6 entering the Armed Forces a resident of Illinois and who
7 entered the Armed Forces from this State, and who is presently
8 on ordinary or emergency leave from the Armed Forces, and any
9 resident of Illinois who has a disability may hunt any of the
10 species protected by Section 2.2 without procuring a hunting
11 license, but the hunting shall be done only during such
12 periods of time and with devices and by methods as are
13 permitted by this Act. For the purpose of this Section a person
14 is a person with a disability when that person has a Type 1 or
15 Type 4, Class 2 disability as defined in Section 4A of the
16 Illinois Identification Card Act. For purposes of this
17 Section, an Illinois Person with a Disability Identification
18 Card issued pursuant to the Illinois Identification Card Act
19 indicating that the person named has a Type 1 or Type 4, Class
20 2 disability shall be adequate documentation of the
21 disability.

22 (d) A courtesy non-resident license, permit, or stamp for
23 taking game may be issued at the discretion of the Director,
24 without fee, to any person officially employed in the game and
25 fish or conservation department of another state or of the
26 United States who is within the State to assist or consult or

1 cooperate with the Director; or to the officials of other
2 states, the United States, foreign countries, or officers or
3 representatives of conservation organizations or publications
4 while in the State as guests of the Governor or Director. The
5 Director may provide to nonresident participants and official
6 gunners at field trials an exemption from licensure while
7 participating in a field trial.

8 (e) State Migratory Waterfowl Stamps shall be required for
9 those persons qualifying under subsections (c) and (d) who
10 intend to hunt migratory waterfowl, including coots, to the
11 extent that hunting licenses of the various types are
12 authorized and required by this Section for those persons.

13 (f) Registration in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Migratory
14 Bird Harvest Information Program shall be required for those
15 persons who are required to have a hunting license before
16 taking or attempting to take any bird of the species defined as
17 migratory game birds by Section 2.2, except that this
18 subsection shall not apply to crows in this State or
19 hand-reared birds on licensed game breeding and hunting
20 preserve areas, for which an open season is established by
21 this Act. Persons registering with the Program must carry
22 proof of registration with them while migratory bird hunting.

23 The Department shall publish suitable prescribed
24 regulations pertaining to registration by the migratory bird
25 hunter in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird
26 Harvest Information Program.

SB2049

- 5 -

LRB104 10885 BDA 20967 b

1 (Source: P.A. 102-837, eff. 5-13-22.)