

SB1232



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

SB1232

Introduced 2/2/2023, by Sen. Neil Anderson

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

515 ILCS 5/20-45	from Ch. 56, par. 20-45
520 ILCS 5/3.2	from Ch. 61, par. 3.2

Amends the Fish and Aquatic Life Code and the Wildlife Code. Provides that the current fees for a fishing license, sportsmen's combination license, and hunting license are annual fees. Allows a resident to obtain a 3-year fishing license (for a fee of \$45), sportsmen's combination license (for a fee of \$78.75), or hunting license (for a fee of \$37.50). Provides that there is no fee for an annual or 3-year fishing license, sportsmen's combination license, or hunting license for a resident Gold Star Family member. Effective immediately.

LRB103 24872 RJT 51205 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning fishing and hunting.

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. Residents of
13 the State of Illinois may obtain a 3-year fishing license,
14 and except as otherwise provided in this Section, for
15 sport fishing devices as defined in Section 10-95 or
16 spearing devices as defined in Section 10-110, the fee for
17 a 3-year fishing license is \$45. For ~~one half of the~~
18 ~~current fishing license fee for~~ individuals age 65 or
19 ~~older, and, commencing with the 2012 license year,~~
20 ~~one half of the current fishing license fee~~ for resident
21 veterans of the United States Armed Forces after returning
22 from service abroad or mobilization by the President of
23 the United States as an active duty member of the United

1 States Armed Forces, the Illinois National Guard, or the
2 Reserves of the United States Armed Forces, fees are
3 one-half of the current fishing license fee. Veterans must
4 provide to the Department acceptable verification of their
5 service. The Department shall establish by administrative
6 rule the procedure by which such verification of service
7 shall be made to the Department for the purpose of issuing
8 fishing licenses to resident veterans at a reduced fee.

9 (a-5) The fee for all sport fishing licenses shall be
10 \$1 for residents over 75 years of age.

11 (a-6) There is no fee for an annual or 3-year fishing
12 license for resident Gold Star Family members. A Gold Star
13 Family member includes an immediate relative of a United
14 States Armed Forces member who died in battle or in
15 support of certain military activities, including a
16 parent, child, brother, sister, or other loved one. Gold
17 Star Family members must provide verification to the
18 Department at one of the Department's 5 regional offices.
19 The Department shall establish who qualifies for Gold Star
20 Family member status and what constitutes suitable
21 verification.

22 (b) All residents before using any commercial fishing
23 device shall obtain a commercial fishing license, the fee
24 for which shall be \$60 and a resident fishing license, the
25 fee for which is \$14.50. Each and every commercial device
26 used shall be licensed by a resident commercial fisherman

1 as follows:

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

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

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

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

17 (c) Residents of the State of Illinois may obtain an
18 annual or 3-year ~~a~~ sportsmen's combination license that
19 shall entitle the holder to the same non-commercial
20 fishing privileges as residents holding a license as
21 described in subsection (a) of this Section and to the
22 same hunting privileges as residents holding a license to
23 hunt all species as described in Section 3.1 of the
24 Wildlife Code. No sportsmen's combination license shall be
25 issued to any individual who would be ineligible for
26 either the fishing or hunting license separately. The

1 annual sportsmen's combination license fee shall be
2 \$25.50. The 3-year sportsmen's combination license fee is
3 \$78.75. For residents age 65 or older, the fee is one-half
4 of the fee charged for a sportsmen's combination license.
5 For resident veterans of the United States Armed Forces
6 after returning from service abroad or mobilization by the
7 President of the United States as an active duty member of
8 the United States Armed Forces, the Illinois National
9 Guard, or the Reserves of the United States Armed Forces,
10 the fee, commencing with the 2012 license year, is
11 one-half of the fee charged for a sportsmen's combination
12 license. Veterans must provide to the Department
13 acceptable verification of their service. The Department
14 shall establish by administrative rule the procedure by
15 which such verification of service shall be made to the
16 Department for the purpose of issuing sportsmen's
17 combination licenses to resident veterans at a reduced
18 fee.

19 (c-1) There is no fee for an annual or 3-year sportsmen's
20 combination license for resident Gold Star Family members. A
21 Gold Star Family member includes an immediate relative of a
22 United States Armed Forces member who died in battle or in
23 support of certain military activities, including a parent,
24 child, brother, sister, or other loved one. Gold Star Family
25 members must provide verification to the Department at one of
26 the Department's 5 regional offices. The Department shall

1 establish who qualifies for Gold Star Family member status and
2 what constitutes suitable verification.

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

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

14 (f) Residents of this State, upon establishing
15 residency as required by the Department, may obtain a
16 lifetime hunting or fishing license or lifetime
17 sportsmen's combination license which shall entitle the
18 holder to the same non-commercial fishing privileges as
19 residents holding a license as described in paragraph (a)
20 of this Section and to the same hunting privileges as
21 residents holding a license to hunt all species as
22 described in Section 3.1 of the Wildlife Code. No lifetime
23 sportsmen's combination license shall be issued to or
24 retained by any individual who would be ineligible for
25 either the fishing or hunting license separately, either
26 upon issuance, or in any year a violation would subject an

1 individual to have either or both fishing or hunting
2 privileges rescinded. The lifetime hunting and fishing
3 license fees shall be as follows:

4 (1) Lifetime fishing: 30 x the current fishing
5 license fee.

6 (2) Lifetime hunting: 30 x the current hunting
7 license fee.

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

10 Lifetime licenses shall not be refundable. A \$10 fee shall
11 be charged for reissuing any lifetime license. The Department
12 may establish rules and regulations for the issuance and use
13 of lifetime licenses and may suspend or revoke any lifetime
14 license issued under this Section for violations of those
15 rules or regulations or other provisions under this Code or
16 the Wildlife Code, or a violation of the United States Code
17 that involves the taking, possessing, killing, harvesting,
18 transportation, selling, exporting, or importing any fish or
19 aquatic life protected by this Code or the taking, possessing,
20 killing, harvesting, transportation, selling, exporting, or
21 importing any fauna protected by the Wildlife Code when any
22 part of the United States Code violation occurred in Illinois.
23 Individuals under 16 years of age who possess a lifetime
24 hunting or sportsmen's combination license shall have in their
25 possession, while in the field, a certificate of competency as
26 required under Section 3.2 of the Wildlife Code. Any lifetime

1 license issued under this Section shall not exempt individuals
2 from obtaining additional stamps or permits required under the
3 provisions of this Code or the Wildlife Code. Individuals
4 required to purchase additional stamps shall sign the stamps
5 and have them in their possession while fishing or hunting
6 with a lifetime license. All fees received from the issuance
7 of lifetime licenses shall be deposited in the Fish and
8 Wildlife Endowment Fund.

9 Except for licenses issued under subsection (e) of this
10 Section, all licenses provided for in this Section shall
11 expire on March 31 of each year, except that the license
12 provided for in subsection (d) of this Section shall expire 24
13 hours after the effective date and time listed on the face of
14 the license.

15 All individuals required to have and failing to have the
16 license provided for in subsection (a) or (d) of this Section
17 shall be fined according to the provisions of Section 20-35 of
18 this Code.

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

22 (g) For the purposes of this Section, "acceptable
23 verification" means official documentation from the Department
24 of Defense or the appropriate Major Command showing
25 mobilization dates or service abroad dates, including: (i) a
26 DD-214, (ii) a letter from the Illinois Department of Military

1 Affairs for members of the Illinois National Guard, (iii) a
2 letter from the Regional Reserve Command for members of the
3 Armed Forces Reserve, (iv) a letter from the Major Command
4 covering Illinois for active duty members, (v) personnel
5 records for mobilized State employees, and (vi) any other
6 documentation that the Department, by administrative rule,
7 deems acceptable to establish dates of mobilization or service
8 abroad.

9 For the purposes of this Section, the term "service
10 abroad" means active duty service outside of the 50 United
11 States and the District of Columbia, and includes all active
12 duty service in territories and possessions of the United
13 States.

14 (Source: P.A. 102-780, eff. 5-13-22; 102-837, eff. 5-13-22;
15 revised 7-26-22.)

16 Section 10. The Wildlife Code is amended by changing
17 Section 3.2 as follows:

18 (520 ILCS 5/3.2) (from Ch. 61, par. 3.2)

19 Sec. 3.2. Hunting license; application; instruction.
20 Before the Department or any county, city, village, township,
21 incorporated town clerk or his duly designated agent or any
22 other person authorized or designated by the Department to
23 issue hunting licenses shall issue a hunting license to any
24 person, the person shall file his application with the

1 Department or other party authorized to issue licenses on a
2 form provided by the Department and further give definite
3 proof of identity and place of legal residence. Each clerk
4 designating agents to issue licenses and stamps shall furnish
5 the Department, within 10 days following the appointment, the
6 names and mailing addresses of the agents. Each clerk or his
7 duly designated agent shall be authorized to sell licenses and
8 stamps only within the territorial area for which he was
9 elected or appointed. No duly designated agent is authorized
10 to furnish licenses or stamps for issuance by any other
11 business establishment. Each application shall be executed and
12 sworn to and shall set forth the name and description of the
13 applicant and place of residence.

14 No hunting license shall be issued to any person born on or
15 after January 1, 1980 unless he presents the person authorized
16 to issue the license evidence that he has held a hunting
17 license issued by the State of Illinois or another state in a
18 prior year, or a certificate of competency as provided in this
19 Section. Persons under 18 years of age may be issued a Lifetime
20 Hunting or Sportsmen's Combination License as provided under
21 Section 20-45 of the Fish and Aquatic Life Code but shall not
22 be entitled to hunt alone, without the supervision of an adult
23 age 21 or older, unless they have a certificate of competency
24 as provided in this Section and the certificate is in their
25 possession while hunting.

26 The Department of Natural Resources shall authorize

1 personnel of the Department or certified volunteer instructors
2 to conduct courses, of not less than 10 hours in length, in
3 firearms and hunter safety, which may include training in bow
4 and arrow safety, at regularly specified intervals throughout
5 the State. Persons successfully completing the course shall
6 receive a certificate of competency. The Department of Natural
7 Resources may further cooperate with any reputable association
8 or organization in establishing courses if the organization
9 has as one of its objectives the promotion of safety in the
10 handling of firearms or bow and arrow.

11 The Department of Natural Resources shall designate any
12 person found by it to be competent to give instruction in the
13 handling of firearms, hunter safety, and bow and arrow. The
14 persons so appointed shall give the course of instruction and
15 upon the successful completion shall issue to the person
16 instructed a certificate of competency in the safe handling of
17 firearms, hunter safety, and bow and arrow. No charge shall be
18 made for any course of instruction except for materials or
19 ammunition consumed. The Department of Natural Resources shall
20 furnish information on the requirements of hunter safety
21 education programs to be distributed free of charge to
22 applicants for hunting licenses by the persons appointed and
23 authorized to issue licenses. Funds for the conducting of
24 firearms and hunter safety courses shall be taken from the fee
25 charged for the Firearm Owners Identification Card.

26 The annual fee for a hunting license to hunt all species

1 for a resident of Illinois is \$12. Residents of the State of
2 Illinois may obtain a 3-year hunting license to hunt all
3 species for a fee of \$37.50. For residents age 65 or older,
4 and, commencing with the 2012 license year, resident veterans
5 of the United States Armed Forces after returning from service
6 abroad or mobilization by the President of the United States
7 as an active duty member of the United States Armed Forces, the
8 Illinois National Guard, or the Reserves of the United States
9 Armed Forces, the fee is one-half of the fee charged for a
10 hunting license to hunt all species for a resident of
11 Illinois. Veterans must provide to the Department acceptable
12 verification of their service. The Department shall establish
13 by administrative rule the procedure by which such
14 verification of service shall be made to the Department for
15 the purpose of issuing resident veterans hunting licenses at a
16 reduced fee. There is no fee for an annual or 3-year hunting
17 license for resident Gold Star Family members. A Gold Star
18 Family member includes an immediate relative of a United
19 States Armed Forces member who died in battle or in support of
20 certain military activities, including a parent, child,
21 brother, sister, or other loved one. Gold Star Family members
22 must provide verification to the Department at one of the
23 Department's 5 regional offices. The Department shall
24 establish who qualifies for Gold Star Family member status and
25 what constitutes suitable verification. The fee for a hunting
26 license to hunt all species shall be \$1 for residents over 75

1 years of age. Nonresidents shall be charged \$57 for a hunting
2 license.

3 Nonresidents may be issued a nonresident hunting license
4 for a period not to exceed 10 consecutive days' hunting in the
5 State and shall be charged a fee of \$35.

6 A special nonresident hunting license authorizing a
7 nonresident to take game birds by hunting on a game breeding
8 and hunting preserve area only, established under Section
9 3.27, shall be issued upon proper application being made and
10 payment of a fee equal to that for a resident hunting license.
11 The expiration date of this license shall be on the same date
12 each year that game breeding and hunting preserve area
13 licenses expire.

14 Each applicant for a State Migratory Waterfowl Stamp,
15 regardless of his residence or other condition, shall pay a
16 fee of \$15 and shall receive a stamp. The fee for a State
17 Migratory Waterfowl Stamp shall be waived for residents over
18 75 years of age. Except as provided under Section 20-45 of the
19 Fish and Aquatic Life Code, the stamp shall be signed by the
20 person or affixed to his license or permit in a space
21 designated by the Department for that purpose.

22 Each applicant for a State Habitat Stamp, regardless of
23 his residence or other condition, shall pay a fee of \$5 and
24 shall receive a stamp. The fee for a State Habitat Stamp shall
25 be waived for residents over 75 years of age. Except as
26 provided under Section 20-45 of the Fish and Aquatic Life

1 Code, the stamp shall be signed by the person or affixed to his
2 license or permit in a space designated by the Department for
3 that purpose.

4 Nothing in this Section shall be construed as to require
5 the purchase of more than one State Habitat Stamp by any person
6 in any one license year.

7 The fees for State Pheasant Stamps and State Furbearer
8 Stamps shall be waived for residents over 75 years of age.

9 The Department shall furnish the holders of hunting
10 licenses and stamps with an insignia as evidence of possession
11 of license, or license and stamp, as the Department may
12 consider advisable. The insignia shall be exhibited and used
13 as the Department may order.

14 All other hunting licenses and all State stamps shall
15 expire upon March 31 of each year.

16 Every person holding any license, permit, or stamp issued
17 under the provisions of this Act shall have it in his
18 possession for immediate presentation for inspection to the
19 officers and authorized employees of the Department, any
20 sheriff, deputy sheriff, or any other peace officer making a
21 demand for it. This provision shall not apply to Department
22 owned or managed sites where it is required that all hunters
23 deposit their license, permit, or Firearm Owner's
24 Identification Card at the check station upon entering the
25 hunting areas.

26 For the purposes of this Section, "acceptable

1 verification" means official documentation from the Department
2 of Defense or the appropriate Major Command showing
3 mobilization dates or service abroad dates, including: (i) a
4 DD-214, (ii) a letter from the Illinois Department of Military
5 Affairs for members of the Illinois National Guard, (iii) a
6 letter from the Regional Reserve Command for members of the
7 Armed Forces Reserve, (iv) a letter from the Major Command
8 covering Illinois for active duty members, (v) personnel
9 records for mobilized State employees, and (vi) any other
10 documentation that the Department, by administrative rule,
11 deems acceptable to establish dates of mobilization or service
12 abroad.

13 For the purposes of this Section, the term "service
14 abroad" means active duty service outside of the 50 United
15 States and the District of Columbia, and includes all active
16 duty service in territories and possessions of the United
17 States.

18 (Source: P.A. 101-81, eff. 7-12-19; 102-780, eff. 5-13-22.)

19 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
20 becoming law.