

1 AN ACT concerning safety.

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 adding Section  
5 3.1-9 as follows:

6 (520 ILCS 5/3.1-9 new)

7 Sec. 3.1-9. Youth Hunting License.

8 Any resident youth age 16 and under may apply to the  
9 Department for a Youth Hunting License, which extends limited  
10 hunting privileges. The Youth Hunting License shall be a  
11 renewable license that shall expire on the March 31 following  
12 the date of issuance.

13 For youth age 16 and under, the Youth Hunting License shall  
14 entitle the licensee to hunt while supervised by a parent,  
15 grandparent, or guardian who is 21 years of age or older and  
16 has a valid Illinois hunting license. Possession of a Youth  
17 Hunting License shall serve in lieu of a valid hunting license,  
18 but does not exempt the licensee from compliance with the  
19 requirements of this Code and any rules adopted under this  
20 Code.

21 A youth licensed under this Section shall not hunt or carry  
22 a hunting device, including, but not limited to, a firearm, bow  
23 and arrow, or crossbow unless the youth is accompanied by and

1 under the close personal supervision of a parent, grandparent,  
2 or guardian who is 21 years of age or older and has a valid  
3 Illinois hunting license.

4 At age 17 years or when the youth chooses to hunt by  
5 themselves, they are required to successfully complete a hunter  
6 safety course approved by the Department prior to being able to  
7 obtain a full hunting license and subsequently hunt by  
8 themselves.

9 In order to be approved for the Youth Hunting License, the  
10 applicant must request a Youth Hunting License from the  
11 Department and submit a \$7 fee, which shall be separate from  
12 and additional to any other stamp, permit, tag, or license fee  
13 that may be required for hunting under this Code. The  
14 Department shall adopt rules for the administration of the  
15 program, but shall not require any certificate of competency or  
16 other hunting education as a condition of the Youth Hunting  
17 License.

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