

1 HB40
2 203871-1
3 By Representative Whitt
4 RFD: Military and Veterans Affairs
5 First Read: 04-FEB-20
6 PFD: 01/23/2020

SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources does not offer a lifetime hunting or fishing license to disabled U.S. military veterans for a reduced price.

This bill would authorize the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to issue lifetime hunting and fishing licenses to qualified disabled U.S. military veterans who reside in Alabama at a reduced price.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; to add Section 9-11-65.3 to the Code of Alabama 1975, to authorize the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to issue lifetime hunting, freshwater fishing, and saltwater fishing licenses to disabled U.S. military veterans who are residents of this state and to

1 establish fees, qualifications, and conditions for the
2 licenses.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. Section 1. Section 9-11-65.3 is added to
5 the Code of Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

6 § 9-11-65.3.

7 (a) Effective beginning with the license year
8 commencing on September 1, 2020, the Department of
9 Conservation and Natural Resources may issue resident lifetime
10 hunting and fishing licenses to disabled U.S. military
11 veterans subject to the fees, qualifications, and conditions
12 in this section.

13 (b) Hunting License.

14 (1) A U.S. military veteran who is certified by the
15 U.S. Veterans Administration as 50 percent or more physically
16 disabled and who meets the residency requirements of Section
17 9-11-44 may in lieu of purchasing an annual hunting license
18 purchase a lifetime disabled military veteran's appreciation
19 hunting license for the following applicable fee:

20 a. Disabled military veterans less than 50 years old
21 - \$291.30.

22 b. Disabled military veterans 50 years old or older
23 - \$174.60.

24 (2) A U.S. military veteran who is certified by the
25 U.S. Veterans Administration as 100 percent, service-connected
26 permanently and totally disabled and who meets the residency
27 requirements of Section 9-11-44 may in lieu of purchasing an

1 annual hunting license purchase a lifetime resident 100
2 percent disabled military veteran's appreciation hunting
3 license for the following applicable fee.

4 a. Disabled military veterans less than 50 years old
5 - \$45.00.

6 b. Disabled military veterans 50 years old or older
7 - \$27.00.

8 (3) The license fees collected pursuant to this
9 subsection shall be deposited into the Alabama Game and Fish
10 Endowment Fund.

11 (c) Freshwater Fishing License.

12 (1) A U.S. military veteran meeting the disability
13 and residency requirements of Section 9-11-53 may in lieu of
14 purchasing an annual freshwater fishing license purchase a
15 lifetime disabled military veteran's appreciation freshwater
16 fishing license for the following applicable fee:

17 a. Disabled military veterans less than 50 years old
18 - \$45.00.

19 b. Disabled military veterans 50 years old or older
20 - \$27.00.

21 (2) The license fees collected pursuant to this
22 subsection shall be deposited into the Alabama Game and Fish
23 Endowment Fund.

24 (d) Saltwater Fishing License.

25 (1) A U.S. military veteran meeting the disability
26 and residency requirements of Section 9-11-53.1 may in lieu of
27 purchasing an annual saltwater fishing license purchase a

1 lifetime resident disabled military veteran's appreciation
2 saltwater fishing license for the following applicable fees:

3 a. Disabled military veterans less than 50 years old
4 - \$45.00.

5 b. Disabled military veterans 50 years old or older
6 - \$27.00.

7 (2) The license fees collected pursuant to this
8 subsection shall be deposited into the Marine Resources Fund.

9 (e) Combination License.

10 (1) The Department may offer a combination lifetime
11 license for hunting, freshwater fishing, and saltwater fishing
12 to disabled military veterans for a total of the applicable
13 license fees listed in this section.

14 (f) In addition to paying any license fee required
15 by this section, an applicant shall pay an issuance fee of one
16 dollar and ten cents (\$1.10) when submitting his or her
17 license application.

18 (g) The license fees and issuance fees prescribed in
19 this section are subject to adjustment pursuant to Section
20 9-11-68.

21 (h) Applications for lifetime licenses authorized by
22 this section shall be filed in the office of the commissioner
23 of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources or as
24 otherwise authorized by the commissioner on forms prescribed
25 by the commissioner.

26 (i) Lifetime license issued pursuant to this section
27 are not transferrable.

1 (j) Nonresidents of this state may not be purchase
2 the licenses provided for in this section.

3 (k) The holder of a valid disabled military veterans
4 hunting or disabled military veterans freshwater fishing
5 license shall also be entitled to all of the privileges of the
6 wildlife heritage license.

7 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
8 first day of the third month following its passage and
9 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.