

FINAL BILL REPORT

SB 5008

C 269 L 09

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Regarding hunting licensing requirements for members of the military.

Sponsors: Senators Hewitt, Hobbs, Honeyford, Schoesler, Zarelli, Parlette, Stevens, Kilmer, Hatfield, Swecker, Benton and Roach.

Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation
House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources

Background: A recreational license issued by the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) is required to hunt for classified wildlife in Washington. When purchasing a hunting license, persons under the age of 18 must present certification of the completion of a course of instruction of at least ten hours in the safe handling of firearms, safety, conservation, and sportsmanship. This requirement also applies to persons purchasing a hunting license for the first time if born after January 1, 1972.

The hunter education program is managed by DFW. Courses focus on the topics of firearms and outdoor safety, wildlife management, and hunter responsibility. All hunter education instructors are certified by DFW.

Summary: Members of the United States military are exempt from the firearm skills portion of any hunter education course completed over the Internet.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	44	0	
House	98	0	(House amended)
Senate	44	0	(Senate concurred)

Effective: July 26, 2009

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.