
SENATE BILL 5008

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators Hewitt, Hobbs, Honeyford, Schoesler, Zarelli, Parlette, Stevens, Kilmer, Hatfield, Swecker, Benton, and Roach

Read first time 01/12/09. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation.

1 AN ACT Relating to hunting licensing requirements for members of
2 the military; and amending RCW 77.32.155.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 77.32.155 and 2007 c 163 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1)(a) When purchasing any hunting license, persons under the age
7 of eighteen shall present certification of completion of a course of
8 instruction of at least ten hours in the safe handling of firearms,
9 safety, conservation, and sportsmanship. All persons purchasing any
10 hunting license for the first time, if born after January 1, 1972,
11 shall present such certification. This requirement does not apply to
12 any active duty member of the armed forces of the United States, or any
13 member of the national guard or the reserves of the armed forces of the
14 United States who has been called to active duty.

15 (b) The director may establish a program for training persons in
16 the safe handling of firearms, conservation, and sportsmanship and
17 shall prescribe the type of instruction and the qualifications of the
18 instructors. The director may cooperate with the National Rifle

1 Association, organized sportsmen's groups, or other public or private
2 organizations when establishing the training program.

3 (c) Upon the successful completion of a course established under
4 this section, the trainee shall receive a hunter education certificate
5 signed by an authorized instructor. The certificate is evidence of
6 compliance with this section.

7 (d) The director may accept certificates from other states that
8 persons have successfully completed firearm safety, hunter education,
9 or similar courses as evidence of compliance with this section.

10 (2)(a) The director may authorize a once in a lifetime, one license
11 year deferral of hunter education training for individuals who are
12 accompanied by a nondeferred Washington-licensed hunter who has held a
13 Washington hunting license for the prior three years and is over
14 eighteen years of age. The commission shall adopt rules for the
15 administration of this subsection to avoid potential fraud and abuse.

16 (b) The director is authorized to collect an application fee, not
17 to exceed twenty dollars, for obtaining the once in a lifetime, one
18 license year deferral of hunter education training from the department.
19 This fee must be deposited into the fish and wildlife enforcement
20 reward account and must be used exclusively to administer the deferral
21 program created in this subsection.

22 (c) For the purposes of this subsection, "accompanied" means to go
23 along with another person while staying within a range of the other
24 person that permits continual unaided visual and auditory
25 communication.

26 (3) To encourage the participation of an adequate number of
27 instructors for the training program, the commission shall develop
28 nonmonetary incentives available to individuals who commit to serving
29 as an instructor. The incentives may include additional hunting
30 opportunities for instructors.

31 (4) Subsection (1)(a) of this section does not apply to any active
32 duty member of the armed forces of the United States, or any member of
33 the national guard or the reserves of the armed forces of the United
34 States who has been called to active duty.

--- END ---