

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2017 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2696

BY DELEGATES HAMILTON, R. ROMINE, A. EVANS,
ELDRIDGE, WAGNER, ROWAN, WILSON, LOVE, AND FRICH

[Introduced February 24, 2017; February 24, 2017

Referred

to the Committee on Agriculture and Natural

Resources then the Judiciary.]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §20-2-42a, §20-2-42q, §20-2-42s and §20-2-42v of the Code of
 2 West Virginia, 1931, as amended, all relating to crossbow hunting; clarifying that use of
 3 crossbows with Class A hunting and trapping license during big game seasons requires
 4 additional licenses, stamps or permits; permitting crossbow hunting with Class RB, Class
 5 RRV or Class UU licenses; and permitting crossbow hunting with Class BG stamp.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That §20-2-42a, §20-2-42q, §20-2-42s and §20-2-42v of the Code of West Virginia, 1931,
 2 as amended, be amended and reenacted, all to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2. WILDLIFE RESOURCES.

§20-2-42a. Class A resident hunting and trapping license.

1 A Class A license is a resident hunting and trapping license and entitles the licensee to
 2 hunt and trap all legal species of wild animals and wild birds in all counties of the state, except
 3 that the licensee may not hunt deer during the deer archery, crossbow and muzzle-loader
 4 seasons, or black bear, wild turkey or wild boar during the respective seasons, and except as
 5 prohibited by rules of the Director or Natural Resources Commission and when additional
 6 licenses, stamps or permits are required. It shall be issued only to residents or aliens lawfully
 7 residing in the United States who have been domiciled residents of West Virginia for a period of
 8 thirty consecutive days or more immediately prior to the date of their application for a license. The
 9 fee for the license is \$18. This is a base license and does not require the purchase of a
 10 prerequisite license to participate in the activities specified in this section, except as noted.

**§20-2-42q. Class RB resident and Class RRB nonresident archery deer hunting stamp for
 an additional deer.**

1 The Director has the authority to issue a Class RB resident and a Class RRB nonresident
 2 archery deer hunting stamp when deemed essential for the proper management of the wildlife
 3 resources. This stamp allows the licensee to hunt and take an additional deer during the deer
 4 archery or crossbow seasons as designated by the director. The fee for a Class RB stamp is \$20

5 and the fee for a Class RRB stamp is \$35. The director may promulgate rules in accordance with
 6 article three, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code governing the issuance and use of these stamps.
 7 These stamps require that the licensee purchase the appropriate base license before participating
 8 in the activities specified in this section, except as noted.

§20-2-42s. Class UU nonresident archery deer hunting stamp.

1 A Class UU stamp is a nonresident archery deer hunting stamp and entitles the licensee
 2 to hunt and take deer with a bow during the archery deer season or with a crossbow in the
 3 crossbow deer season in all counties of the state, except as prohibited by the rules of the Director
 4 or Natural Resources Commission. The fee for a Class UU stamp is \$30. The stamp, issued in a
 5 form prescribed by the director, shall be in addition to a Class E license. This stamp requires that
 6 the licensee purchase the appropriate base license before participating in the activities specified
 7 in this section, except as noted.

§20-2-42v. Class BG resident big game stamp.

1 A Class BG stamp is a resident big game stamp and entitles the Class A licensee to hunt
 2 deer during the deer archery, crossbow and muzzleloader seasons, and bear, wild turkey and
 3 wild boar during the respective seasons, except as prohibited by rules of the Director or Natural
 4 Resources Commission: *Provided*, That the licensee possesses all other required permits and/or
 5 stamps. The fee for the stamp is \$10. The stamp, issued in a form prescribed by the director, shall
 6 be in addition to a Class A license. This stamp requires that the licensee purchase the appropriate
 7 base license before participating in the activities specified in this section, except as noted.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to clarify that the use of a crossbow for hunting big game requires additional licenses, stamps or permits (with exception of buck firearms season) with a Class A hunting and trapping license. The bill permits crossbow hunting with Class RB, Class RRB, and Class UU licenses and with a Class BG stamp.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.