WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2023 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2553

By Delegates Nestor, Horst, Hanna, Longanacre, Martin, Hott, Barnhart, Kump, Storch, Phillips, and Honaker

[Introduced January 13, 2023; Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and Homeland Security then Finance]

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §20-2-63, relating to discounting lifetime hunting, fishing, and trapping fees for persons honorably discharged from the United States armed forces; providing that the lifetime hunting, trapping, and fishing licenses and permits are discounted by 75 percent for this class of persons; including eligibility requirements; requiring compliance with all other requirements to obtain lifetime license; and granting rulemaking authority.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. WILDLIFE RESOURCES.

§20-2-63. Discount for honorably discharged veterans applying for lifetime hunting, trapping, and fishing licenses or permits.

(a) For any person who was honorably discharged from the United States armed forces who would otherwise be required to have a license or permit to hunt, fish, or trap, the fee to obtain a lifetime hunting, fishing, or trapping license or permit that would otherwise be required by the director by legislative rules issued pursuant to §20-2-42 of this code is hereby discounted by 75 percent.

(b) To be eligible for this 75 percent discount off of a lifetime license, a person applying for a lifetime hunting, fishing, or trapping license or permit must provide appropriate documentation demonstrating that the person was honorably discharged from the United States armed forces, and is a bona fide resident of this state.

(c) Any person seeking the 75 percent discount off of a lifetime licensed must provide all other information required by the director for issuance of the license and must comply with all other provisions of law relating to the applicable license or permit that is sought.

(d) The director may propose rules for legislative approval in accordance with the provisions of §29A-3-1 *et seq*. of this code setting forth application and processing procedures.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide a 75 percent discount for a lifetime hunting, fishing, and trapping license or permit for individuals who were honorably discharged from the United States armed forces.

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