

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 69

BY SENATOR MYERS

HUNTERS/HUNTING. Provides for hunting and fishing licenses. (8/1/25)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:645(B), 3000(G), and 3004(A)(2) and to enact R.S.
3 56:645(C), relative to hunting and fishing licenses; to provide for the Louisiana
4 Wildlife and Fisheries Foundation Escrow Account; to provide for combination
5 hunting and fishing licenses; to provide for eligibility; and to provide for related
6 matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 56:645(B), 3000(G), and 3004(A)(2) are hereby amended and
9 reenacted and R.S. 56:645(C) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §645. Fishing and hunting license checkoff; donation for veterans with disabilities

11 * * *

12 B. There is hereby created within the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
13 a special escrow account known as the "Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Foundation
14 Escrow Account". The escrow account is created to receive deposits of donations
15 made for the benefit of disabled veterans when an individual purchases a fishing and
16 hunting license. ~~The monies in the account shall be used solely to purchase hunting
17 and fishing licenses for disabled veterans.~~ No more than ten percent of the monies

1 in the account shall be used for administrative costs. All unexpended and
2 unencumbered monies in this account at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the
3 account. The monies in the account shall be invested by the state treasurer in the
4 same manner as monies in the state general fund.

5 **C. The monies in the account shall be used solely to purchase hunting**
6 **and fishing licenses for disabled veterans, including the purchase of a**
7 **commemorative durable hard card containing such licensing information.**

8 * * *
9 §3000. Recreational license requirements; definitions

10 * * *

11 G. ~~A person may~~ **The following seniors and retired or honorably**
12 **discharged members of the United States Armed Forces** qualify for a
13 Senior/Retired Military/**Honorably Discharged Veteran** Hunting and Fishing
14 license as follows:

15 (1) **Seniors:**

16 (a) A resident who reaches age sixty prior to June 1, 2000, may obtain an
17 annual license for no cost.

18 (2) (b) A resident who reaches age sixty between June 1, 2000, and May 31,
19 2022, may obtain an annual license for the cost of five dollars.

20 (3) (c) A resident who reaches age sixty-five on or after June 1, 2027, may
21 obtain an annual license for the cost of twenty dollars.

22 (4) ~~Upon application to the department and showing identification and proof~~
23 ~~of military service satisfactory to the department, any~~ **(2) Retired or honorably**
24 **discharged members of the United States Armed Forces:**

25 (a) **Any** person who is a retired member of the United States Armed Forces,
26 including the Louisiana Army National Guard or the Louisiana Air National Guard,
27 and was either born in Louisiana or is a bona fide resident of Louisiana, ~~may obtain~~
28 an annual license for the cost of twenty dollars.

29 **(b) Any bona fide resident who is a honorably discharged member of the**

1 United States Armed Forces, including the Louisiana Army National Guard or
2 the Louisiana Air National Guard.

3 (c) The applicant must provide identification and proof of eligibility
4 satisfactory to the department. In addition to any other documentation accepted
5 by the department as satisfactory proof of military service, government-issued
6 separation and discharge documentation, such as a DD-214 or NGB-22, shall be
7 considered satisfactory proof of eligibility pursuant to this Paragraph.

8 * * *

9 §3004. Combination licenses (includes all hunting, fishing, and WMA access
10 privileges); fees

11 A. Resident licenses:

12 * * *

13 (2) Senior/Retired Military/**Honorably Discharged Veteran** \$20.00/year

14 * * *

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST

SB 69 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Myers

Present law establishes a special escrow account within the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to receive donations for purchasing hunting and fishing licenses for disabled veterans.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that the funds may also be used to purchase a commemorative durable hard card containing licensing information for disabled veterans.

Present law provides for a \$20 recreational hunting and fishing license for seniors and retired members of the military and provides for eligibility requirements. Proposed law retains present law and adds honorably discharged members to the license and eligibility requirements, regardless of where enlisted, commissioned, or discharged.

Effective August 1, 2025.

(Amends R.S. 56:645(B), 3000(G), and 3004(A)(2); adds R.S. 56:645(C))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Natural Resources to
the original bill

1. Makes a technical amendment.
2. Removes requirement that discharged members show enlistment, commission, or discharge in Louisiana to qualify for the license.