
DIGEST

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HB 182 Engrossed

2019 Regular Session

Chaney

Abstract: Changes the penalties for resident hunting license violations from a class three to a class two.

Present law prohibits a La. resident from hunting, taking, possessing, or transporting any wild bird or any wild quadruped, without holding a license issued by the La. Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

Present law provides that a resident is required to possess the license or licenses to hunt, take, possess, or transport each wild bird and wild quadruped or use a primitive firearm as follows:

- (1) A basic hunting license and a \$14 big game license for deer, turkey, or bobcat.
- (2) A basic hunting license and a \$5.50 duck license for waterfowl.
- (3) A big game hunting license and a \$5.50 wild turkey license for turkey.
- (4) A basic hunting license, big game license, and a \$10.50 special primitive firearms license for deer during the special deer season for primitive firearms.

Present law provides the special primitive firearms license fees are dedicated to the development and study of the deer herds within the state after costs for the administration of the licensing program have been deducted.

Present law provides each license is effective only during the open season for the particular kinds of wild birds and wild quadrupeds authorized thereby to be taken and licenses are not transferable to any other person. Present law requires agents to take possession of any license found in the possession of any person other than the one to whom issued and deliver it to the department to be canceled.

Present law requires that licensees have licenses or an effective license number, together with a form of physical identification, in their possession when hunting.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that a violation of the licensing requirements is a class three violation that is punishable as follows:

- (1) First offense, a fine of not less than \$250 nor more than \$500, or imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both.
- (2) Second offense, a fine of not less than \$500, nor more than \$800, and imprisonment for not less than 60 days nor more than 90 days, and forfeiture of anything seized in connection with the violation.
- (3) Third offense and subsequent offenses, a fine of not less than \$750, nor more than \$1,000, and imprisonment for not less than 90 days nor more than 120 days, and forfeiture of anything seized in connection with the violation.
- (4) Additionally, for a second or subsequent violation of the same provision of law the penalty imposed may include revocation of the permit or license under which the violation occurred for the period for which it was issued and bar the issuance of another permit or license for that same period.

Proposed law changes the violation from a class three to a class two that is punishable as follows:

- (1) First offense, a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$350, or imprisonment for not more than 60 days, or both.
- (2) Second offense, a fine of not less than \$300, nor more than \$550, and imprisonment for not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days.
- (3) Third offense and all subsequent offenses, a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$750, and imprisonment for not less than 60 days nor more than 90 days, and forfeiture to the commission of anything seized in connection with the violation.

(Amends R.S. 56:103(E); Adds R.S. 56:103(G))