



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Revised Committee Statement
LB 690

Hearing Date: February 15, 2007
Committee On: Natural Resources

Introducer(s): (Fischer)

Title: Provide for apprentice hunter education exemptions under the Game Law

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

- Advanced to General File
 - X Advanced to General File with Amendments
 - Indefinitely Postponed
-

Vote Results:

7	Yes	Senators Carlson, Christensen, Fischer, Hudkins, Kopplin, Louden, Wallman
0	No	
0	Present, not voting	
1	Absent	Senator Dubas

Proponents:

Senator Deb Fischer
 Anthony Celebrezze
 Brett Bayer

Wes Sheets
 Brandon Houck
 Joe Herrod
 Michael Streeter
 Ron Jensen

Representing:

Introducer
 U.S. Sportsmen’s Alliance
 National Wild Turkey Federation/ Hunter
 Education
 Nebraska Division, Izaak Walton League
 National Wild Turkey Federation
 Nebraska Council of Sportsmens Clubs
 Game and Parks Commission
 U.S. Sportsmen’s Council

Opponents:

Russell Tooker

Representing:

Nebraska Hunter/Bowhunter Education
 Instructors

Neutral:

None

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 690 does the following:

- Section 1
- (1) Sets a specific age of 29 or younger rather than the calendar date of January 1, 1977, for those who are required to have firearm or crossbow hunter education prior to obtaining a permit. Requires the commission to adopt rules and regulations to carry out the hunter education program.
 - (2) Sets a specific age of 29 or younger rather than the calendar date of January 1, 1977; clarifying language;
 - (c) Allows an exception to the requirement of completion of a hunter education class if the person has obtained a hunter education exemption certificate and a hunting permit; limits a person who is 19 years of age or older, who has a valid hunting permit, from accompanying at the same time more than two persons having apprentice hunter education exemption certificates.
 - (3) An apprentice hunter education exemption may be issued to a person 29 years of age or younger, once during that person's lifetime with one renewal, for a fee of \$5.00. The certificate is valid for one year from the date of issuance. The fee is credited to the State Game Fund.
 - (4) Defines accompanied as under the direct supervision of a person 19 years or older, having a valid hunting permit, who is at all times in unaided visual and verbal communication with the person having an apprentice hunter education exemption. It does not prohibit the use of ordinary prescription eyeglasses or contact lenses or ordinary hearing aide.
- Section 2
- (1) Requires the commission to locate as well as train volunteers as bow hunter education instructors.
 - (2) Sets a specific age of 12 through 29 for those hunting antelope, deer, elk or mountain sheep with a bow and arrow to show (a) proof of successful completion of a bow hunter education course; or (b) the appropriate hunting permit and an apprentice hunter education certificate. The requirements are the same under the bow hunter statute as under the firearm statute regarding the person accompanying the apprentice hunter.
- Section 3
- (1) Allows any person 12 through 15 years of age who has an apprentice hunter education certificate to hunt antelope, elk or mountain sheep when accompanied by a person 19 years of age or older instead of having to be 21 years of age or older, and places the same restrictions on the supervising hunter as other sections of the act.
 - (2) Requires that any person who hunts deer or antelope be at least ten years of age, and if the person is ten or 11, that person must be accompanied by a person at least 19 years of age or older, who has a valid hunting permit, and only two persons age ten or 11 can hunt with the supervising hunter at the same time.
 - (3) Sets out the same definition of "accompanied" that is contained in Section 1 (4).

Section 4 Repealer.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

The Committee amendment does the following:

- Section 1
- (1) Sets a specific age of 29 or younger rather than the calendar date of January 1, 1977, for those who are required to have firearm or crossbow hunter education prior to obtaining a permit. Requires the commission to adopt rules and regulations to carry out the hunter education program.
 - (5) Sets a specific age of 29 or younger rather than the calendar date of January 1, 1977; clarifying language;
 - (c) Allows an exception to the requirement of completion of a hunter education class if the person has obtained a hunter education exemption certificate and a hunting permit and is accompanied by a person who is 19 years of age or older, who has a valid hunting permit and is at all times in unaided visual and verbal communication of no more than two persons having an apprentice hunter education exemption certificate. Ordinary prescription eyeglasses or contact lenses or ordinary hearing aids are permitted.
 - (6) An apprentice hunter education exemption may be issued to a person 29 years of age or younger, once during that person's lifetime with one renewal, for a fee of \$5.00. The certificate expires on December 31 of the year it was issued. The fee is credited to the State Game Fund.
 - (7) Defines accompanied as under the direct supervision of a person 19 years or older, having a valid hunting permit, who is at all times in unaided visual and verbal communication with the person having an apprentice hunter education exemption. It does not prohibit the use of ordinary prescription eyeglasses or contact lenses or ordinary hearing aide.
- Section 2
- (1) Requires the commission to locate as well as train volunteers for bow hunter education instructors.
 - (2) Sets a specific age of 12 through 29 for those hunting antelope, deer, elk or mountain sheep with a bow and arrow and requires either proof of successful completion of a bow hunter education course or the appropriate hunting permit and an apprentice hunter education exemption certificate. The requirements are the same under the bow hunter statute as under the firearm statute regarding the person accompanying the apprentice hunter.

Removes “wild turkey” from the list of big game that may be hunted by bow.

- Section 3
- (1) Restricts the hunting of antelope, elk, or mountain sheep to individuals at least 12 years of age, and persons between the ages 12 and 15 must be supervised by a person 19 years of age or older having a valid hunting permit.
Removes “wild turkey” from the list of big game that may be hunted by firearm.
 - (2) Restricts the hunting of deer to individuals at least ten years old, and persons between the ages of ten and 15 must be supervised by a person 19 years of age or order having a valid hunting permit.
 - (3) Restricts the number of individuals to no more than two that may be supervised at the same time while hunting deer, antelope, elk or mountain sheep.
- Section 4 Repealer.

Senator LeRoy Loudon, Chairperson