

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 690

FINAL READING

Introduced by Fischer, 43; Adams, 24; Avery, 28; Burling, 33; Carlson, 38; Christensen, 44; Cornett, 45; Dierks, 40; Dubas, 34; Engel, 17; Erdman, 47; Flood, 19; Friend, 10; Fulton, 29; Gay, 14; Hansen, 42; Harms, 48; Heidemann, 1; Hudkins, 21; Janssen, 15; Johnson, 37; Karpisek, 32; Kopplin, 3; Lathrop, 12; Loudon, 49; McDonald, 41; Nantkes, 46; Nelson, 6; Pahls, 31; Pankonin, 2; Pedersen, 39; Rogert, 16; Wallman, 30; White, 8.

Read first time January 17, 2007

Committee: Natural Resources

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to the Game Law; to amend section 37-413,
2 Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections
3 37-414 and 37-452, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2007;
4 to change provisions relating to mandatory firearm hunter
5 education and bow hunter education programs; to provide
6 for apprentice hunter education exemption certificates;
7 to change provisions relating to hunting permits; and to
8 repeal the original sections.

9 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 37-413, Reissue Revised Statutes of
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3 37-413 (1) For the purpose of establishing and
4 administering a mandatory firearm hunter education program for
5 persons ~~born on or after January 1, 1977,~~ twelve through
6 twenty-nine years of age who hunt with a firearm or crossbow any
7 species of game, game birds, or game animals, the commission shall
8 provide a program of firearm hunter education training leading
9 to obtaining a certificate of successful completion in the safe
10 handling of firearms and shall locate and train volunteer firearm
11 hunter education instructors. The program shall provide a training
12 course having a minimum of (a) ten hours of classroom instruction
13 or (b) independent study on the part of the student sufficient
14 to pass an examination given by the commission followed by such
15 student's participation in a minimum of four hours of practical
16 instruction. The program shall provide instruction in the areas
17 of safe firearms use, shooting and sighting techniques, hunter
18 ethics, game identification, and conservation management. The
19 commission shall issue a firearm hunter education certificate of
20 successful completion to persons having satisfactorily completed a
21 firearm hunter education course accredited by the commission and
22 shall print, purchase, or otherwise acquire materials as necessary
23 for effective program operation. The commission shall adopt and
24 promulgate rules and regulations for carrying out and administering
25 such programs.

1 (2) It shall be unlawful for any person ~~born on or after~~
2 ~~January 1, 1977,~~ twenty-nine years of age or younger to hunt with
3 a firearm or crossbow any species of game, game birds, or game
4 animals except:

5 (a) A person under the age of twelve years who is
6 accompanied by a person nineteen years of age or older having a
7 valid hunting permit; and

8 (b) A person ~~born on or after January 1, 1977,~~ twelve
9 through twenty-nine years of age who has on his or her person a
10 ~~hunter education certificate~~ proof of successful completion of a
11 hunter education course or a firearm hunter education course issued
12 by the person's state or province of residence or a ~~firearm hunter~~
13 ~~education certificate~~ issued by an accredited program recognized by
14 the commission; ~~or-~~

15 (c) A person twelve through twenty-nine years of age who
16 has on his or her person the appropriate hunting permit and an
17 apprentice hunter education exemption certificate issued by the
18 commission pursuant to subsection (3) of this section and who is
19 accompanied as described in subsection (4) of this section.

20 (3) An apprentice hunter education exemption certificate
21 may be issued to a person twelve through twenty-nine years of age,
22 once during such person's lifetime with one renewal, upon payment
23 of a fee of five dollars and shall expire at midnight on December
24 31 of the year for which the apprentice hunter education exemption
25 certificate is issued. The commission may adopt and promulgate

1 rules and regulations allowing for the issuance of apprentice
2 hunter education exemption certificates. All fees collected under
3 this subsection shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit
4 to the State Game Fund.

5 (4) For purposes of this section, accompanied means under
6 the direct supervision of a person nineteen years of age or older
7 having a valid hunting permit who is at all times in unaided visual
8 and verbal communication of no more than two persons having an
9 apprentice hunter education exemption certificate. This subsection
10 does not prohibit the use by such person nineteen years of age
11 or older of ordinary prescription eyeglasses or contact lenses or
12 ordinary hearing aids.

13 Sec. 2. Section 37-414, Revised Statutes Supplement,
14 2007, is amended to read:

15 37-414 (1) The commission shall establish and administer
16 a bow hunter education program consisting of a minimum of (a)
17 ten hours of classroom instruction or (b) independent study on
18 the part of the student sufficient to pass an examination given
19 by the commission followed by such student's participation in a
20 minimum of four hours of practical instruction. The program shall
21 provide instruction in the safe use of bow hunting equipment,
22 the fundamentals of bow hunting, shooting and hunting techniques,
23 game identification, conservation management, and hunter ethics.
24 When establishing such a program, the commission shall locate and
25 train volunteers as bow hunter education ~~training~~ instructors. The

1 commission shall issue a certificate of successful completion to
2 any person who satisfactorily completes a bow hunter education
3 program established by the commission and shall print, purchase,
4 or otherwise acquire materials necessary for effective program
5 operation. The commission shall adopt and promulgate rules and
6 regulations for carrying out and administering such program.

7 (2) A person ~~born on or after January 1, 1977,~~ twelve
8 through twenty-nine years of age who is hunting antelope, deer,
9 elk, or mountain sheep with a bow and arrow pursuant to any
10 provision of sections 37-447 to 37-453 shall have on his or her
11 person a ~~bow hunter education certificate~~ (a) proof of successful
12 completion of a bow hunter education course issued by his or
13 her state or province of residence or a ~~bow hunter education~~
14 ~~certificate~~ issued by an accredited program recognized by the
15 commission or (b) the appropriate hunting permit and an apprentice
16 hunter education exemption certificate issued and enforced by the
17 commission pursuant to section 37-413.

18 Sec. 3. Section 37-452, Revised Statutes Supplement,
19 2007, is amended to read:

20 37-452 (1) No person shall be issued a permit to hunt
21 ~~deer,~~ hunt antelope, elk, or mountain sheep unless such person is
22 at least twelve years of age, ~~except that~~ and any person who is
23 twelve through fifteen years of age shall only hunt ~~deer,~~ antelope,
24 elk, or mountain sheep when ~~accompanied~~ supervised by a person
25 ~~twenty-one~~ nineteen years of age or ~~over~~ older having a valid

1 hunting permit.

2 (2) No person shall hunt deer unless such person is at
3 least ten years of age, and any person who is ten through fifteen
4 years of age shall only hunt deer when supervised by a person
5 nineteen years of age or older having a valid hunting permit.

6 (3) A person nineteen years of age or older having a
7 valid hunting permit shall not supervise more than two persons
8 while hunting deer, antelope, elk, or mountain sheep at the same
9 time.

10 Sec. 4. Original section 37-413, Reissue Revised Statutes
11 of Nebraska, and sections 37-414 and 37-452, Revised Statutes
12 Supplement, 2007, are repealed.