

By: White, Guillen, et al.

H.B. No. 559

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a fishing license fee waiver for certain residents.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Sections 46.004(b) and (c), Parks and Wildlife Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b) The commission may establish a lower fee or waive the fee or license requirement for:

(1) a resident who has a general commercial fisherman's license of this state;

(2) a resident who is blind as defined by Section 355.001 [94.001], Labor [~~Human Resources~~] Code;

(3) a resident or nonresident who is under 17 years old; or

(4) a resident who is at least 65 years old but younger than 85 years old or a nonresident who is 65 years old or over.

(c) The commission shall waive the fee for:

(1) a qualified disabled veteran as defined by Section 42.012;

(2) [and for] a resident on active duty as a member of the United States military forces, the Texas Army National Guard, the Texas Air National Guard, or the Texas State Guard;

(3) a resident who is under 17 years old and who has a disability; and

(4) a resident who is 85 years old or over.

1           SECTION 2. (a) The change in law made by this Act applies  
2 only to a fee charged for a fishing license issued on or after the  
3 effective date of this Act.

4           (b) A fishing license issued before the effective date of  
5 this Act is covered by the law in effect when the license was  
6 issued, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.  
7 The Parks and Wildlife Department is not required to issue a refund  
8 for any license issued before the effective date of this Act.

9           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.