

By: Berman

H.B. No. 324

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the application of fishing and hunting license requirements to a person at least 70 years of age.

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

SECTION 1. Section 42.012(b), Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The commission may set a lower fee or waive the fee or license requirement for a resident who is under 17 years old, who is 65 years old or older, or who is participating in an event that is sponsored or co-sponsored by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department with the approval of the executive director. The commission shall waive the fee for a qualified disabled veteran and for a resident who is at least 70 years of age.

SECTION 2. Section 42.014, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 42.014. NONRESIDENT SPECIAL HUNTING LICENSE FEE. The fee for a nonresident special hunting license is \$37.75 or an amount set by the commission, whichever amount is more. The commission shall waive the fee for a nonresident who is at least 70 years of age and whose state of residence grants a similar age waiver to Texas residents.

SECTION 3. Section 42.0141, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 42.0141. GENERAL NONRESIDENT HUNTING LICENSE

1 FEE. The fee for a general nonresident hunting license is \$100.75
2 or an amount set by the commission, whichever amount is more. The
3 commission shall waive the fee for a nonresident who is at least 70
4 years of age and whose state of residence grants a similar age
5 waiver to Texas residents.

6 SECTION 4. Section 42.0142(b), Parks and Wildlife Code, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (b) The fee for a nonresident banded bird hunting license is
9 an amount set by the commission. The commission shall waive the fee
10 for a nonresident who is at least 70 years of age and whose state of
11 residence grants a similar age waiver to Texas residents.

12 SECTION 5. Section 42.0143, Parks and Wildlife Code, is
13 amended to read as follows:

14 Sec. 42.0143. NONRESIDENT FIVE-DAY SPECIAL HUNTING
15 LICENSE. A nonresident five-day special hunting license is valid
16 for five consecutive days. The fee for the license is set by the
17 commission in an amount not to exceed 50 percent of the amount of
18 the fee set for a nonresident special hunting license. The
19 commission shall waive the fee for a nonresident who is at least 70
20 years of age and whose state of residence grants a similar age
21 waiver to Texas residents.

22 SECTION 6. Section 42.0144, Parks and Wildlife Code, is
23 amended to read as follows:

24 Sec. 42.0144. NONRESIDENT SPRING TURKEY HUNTING LICENSE
25 FEE. The fee for a nonresident spring turkey hunting license is
26 \$75 or an amount set by the commission, whichever amount is more.
27 The commission shall waive the fee for a nonresident who is at least

1 70 years of age and whose state of residence grants a similar age
2 waiver to Texas residents.

3 SECTION 7. Chapter 43, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended
4 by adding Subchapter A to read as follows:

5 SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

6 Sec. 43.001. EXEMPTIONS. A stamp required under this
7 chapter does not apply to:

8 (1) a resident as defined by Section 42.001 who is at
9 least 70 years of age; or

10 (2) a nonresident as defined by Section 42.001 who is
11 at least 70 years of age and whose state of residence grants a
12 similar age exemption to Texas residents.

13 SECTION 8. Section 46.002(a), Parks and Wildlife Code, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (a) A license issued under this chapter is not required of a
16 person:

17 (1) who is a resident and who is at least 70 years of
18 age [~~and whose birth date is before September 1, 1930~~];

19 (2) who is a nonresident and who is at least 70 years
20 of age [~~, if the person's birth date is before September 1, 1930,~~]
21 and whose [~~the person's~~] state of residence grants a similar age
22 exemption to Texas residents;

23 (3) who is mentally disabled and who is engaging in
24 recreational fishing as part of medically approved therapy, and who
25 is fishing under the immediate supervision of personnel approved or
26 employed by a hospital, residence, or school for mentally disabled
27 persons;

1 (4) who is mentally retarded and is engaged in
2 recreational fishing under the immediate supervision of a person
3 who:

4 (A) holds a license issued under this chapter;
5 and

6 (B) has the permission of the mentally retarded
7 person's family head or legal guardian to take the mentally
8 retarded person fishing if the person is not a member of the family
9 of the mentally retarded person; or

10 (5) who is participating in an event that is sponsored
11 or co-sponsored by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department with the
12 approval of the Executive Director.

13 SECTION 9. Section 50.002(a), Parks and Wildlife Code, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (a) The fee for the combination license is \$12 or an amount
16 set by the commission, whichever amount is more. The commission
17 shall waive the fee for a resident who is at least 70 years of age.

18 SECTION 10. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.