

By: Ashby

H.B. No. 2013

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to fee waivers for certain hunting and fishing licenses
3 for volunteer firefighters.

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

5 SECTION 1. Sections 42.012(b) and (c), Parks and Wildlife
6 Code, are amended to read as follows:

7 (b) The commission may set a lower fee or waive the fee or
8 license requirement for a resident who is under 17 years old, 65
9 years old or older, or participating in an event that is sponsored
10 or cosponsored [~~co-sponsored~~] by the [~~Texas~~] Parks and Wildlife
11 Department with the approval of the executive director. The
12 commission shall waive the fee for:

13 (1) a qualified disabled veteran;

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

17 (3) a volunteer firefighter who has completed at least
18 one year of continuous service.

19 (c) In this section:

20 (1) "Qualified disabled veteran" means a veteran with
21 a service connected disability, as defined by the United States
22 Department of Veterans Affairs, consisting of the loss of the use of
23 a lower extremity or of a disability rating of 50 percent or more
24 and who is receiving compensation from the United States for the

1 disability.

2 (2) "Volunteer firefighter" means a member of a fire
3 department or firefighting unit who:

4 (A) actively engages in fire suppression,
5 rescue, pump operation, or other firefighting activity; and

6 (B) receives not more than \$5,000 in total
7 compensation during a tax year from the fire department or
8 firefighting unit that the firefighter serves.

9 SECTION 2. Section 46.004(c), Parks and Wildlife Code, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (c) The commission shall waive the fee for:

12 (1) a qualified disabled veteran as defined by Section
13 42.012;

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

17 (3) a volunteer firefighter as defined by Section
18 42.012 who has completed at least one year of continuous service.

19 SECTION 3. Section 50.002, Parks and Wildlife Code, is
20 amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

21 (c) The commission shall waive the fee for an annual
22 combination resident hunting and fishing license for a volunteer
23 firefighter as defined by Section 42.012 who has completed at least
24 one year of continuous service.

25 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.