88R746 BEE-D

By:  Bailes H.B. No. 641

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 a blind person 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 veteran with a disability 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; and

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

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

(b)  The Parks and Wildlife Department is not required to issue a refund for a license issued before the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.