

## LEGISLATIVE BILL 121

Approved by the Governor April 7, 2005

Introduced by Louden, 49; Kremer, 34; Preister, 5; Smith, 48; Redfield, 12

AN ACT relating to the Game Law; to amend section 37-201, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to authorize the issuance of discounted hunting and fishing permits to residents that have been deployed in the military; to set fees; to authorize rules and regulations; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original section.

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

Section 1. (1) Notwithstanding any provision of section 37-407 to the contrary, a Nebraska resident who purchased a hunting, fishing, or combination hunting and fishing permit and who was deployed out of state with a branch of the United States military shall be entitled to receive a discounted permit on a one-time basis upon returning to the state if the resident:

(a) Provides to the commission satisfactory proof of purchase of the original permit and evidence of the resident's deployment out of state during the period of the original permit; and

(b) Was deployed out of state for more than one-half of the period of the original permit.

(2) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of section 37-447, 37-449, 37-450, 37-451, or 37-457 to the contrary, a Nebraska resident who purchased a big game permit and who was deployed out of state with a branch of the United States military for the entire season of the hunt and who was unable to use the permit shall be entitled to receive a discounted permit on a one-time basis upon returning to the state if the resident provides to the commission satisfactory proof of purchase of the original permit and evidence of the resident's deployment. Alternatively, the member of the military may request a refund of the amount paid for a big game permit and the commission shall pay such amount.

(b) For purposes of this subsection, big game means antelope, deer, elk, mountain sheep, and wild turkeys.

(3) The commission shall establish a fee of five dollars for the discounted permits authorized in this section. The commission may authorize electronic issuance of the discounted permits.

(4) The commission may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations that set forth the procedures for applying for, and the issuance of, the discounted permits authorized in this section.

Sec. 2. Section 37-201, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

37-201. Sections 37-201 to 37-811 and section 1 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Game Law.

Sec. 3. Original section 37-201, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is repealed.