

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR

5 HOUSE BILL NO. 2741

6 By: Caldwell (Trey)

7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 An Act relating to game and fish; amending 29 O.S.
9 2021, Section 4-101; providing for nonresident
10 landowners to be exempt from licenses on certain
11 types of property; requiring certain documentation;
12 amending 29 O.S. 2021, Section 4-112; providing for
13 nonresident landowners to be exempt from licenses on
14 certain types of property; requiring certain
15 documentation; and providing an effective date.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 29 O.S. 2021, Section 4-101, as
18 amended by Section 1, Chapter 208, O.S.L. 2022 (29 O.S. Supp. 2024,
19 Section 4-101), is amended to read as follows:

20 Section 4-101. A. All licenses and permits issued by the
21 Director of Wildlife Conservation, the Department of Wildlife
22 Conservation or by any of its agents shall be used only in
23 conformity with the provisions of this title and the rules
24 promulgated by the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission.

1 B. All persons making application for any licenses required by
2 this section shall produce a valid license to operate a motor
3 vehicle or other positive proof of identification, age and
4 residency, and any such license issued shall show such data as well
5 as the date and time of issuance.

6 C. Instead of proof of residency, a nonresident who owns a
7 minimum of one hundred sixty (160) acres of noncommercial lands in
8 Oklahoma, may show proof of land ownership and property taxes paid
9 on said property for the previous year to qualify for specific
10 exemptions listed in Section 4-112 of Title 29 of the Oklahoma
11 Statutes.

12 D. All licenses are nontransferable. No person shall alter,
13 change, lend or transfer any license. No person shall use or borrow
14 a license which has not been issued to that person by the Director,
15 the Department or by any of its agents pursuant to the provisions of
16 this section.

17 ~~D.~~ E. No person may engage in activities requiring a license
18 without that person's carrying such license on their person and
19 producing the same for an inspection upon the demand of any Oklahoma
20 citizen or game warden.

21 ~~E.~~ F. Any person required to produce a license must also
22 identify themselves as the person to whom such license was issued,
23 and failure or refusal to comply shall be deemed prima facie
24 evidence of a violation of this section.

1 ~~F.~~ G. Unless otherwise provided in this Code:

2 1. Licenses issued pursuant to paragraph 1 of subsection C and
3 paragraphs 1 and 2 of subsection E of Section 4-112 of this title
4 and paragraphs 1 and 2 of subsection B of Section 4-113 of this
5 title and paragraphs 1 and 2 of subsection C and paragraph 1 of
6 subsection E of Section 4-110 of this title shall expire one (1)
7 year after the date issued. Unless otherwise specified, all other
8 licenses shall expire December 31 for the year issued; and

9 2. Any person convicted of violating any of the provisions of
10 this title may have any or all licenses held by that person or the
11 privilege of applying for, purchasing or exercising the benefits
12 conferred by the licenses revoked by the Department in accordance
13 with rules promulgated by the Commission or by a court of competent
14 jurisdiction for a period of not less than one (1) year. For
15 purposes of this paragraph, a court conviction, a plea of guilty, a
16 plea of nolo contendere, the imposition of a deferred or suspended
17 sentence by a court, or forfeiture of bond shall be deemed a
18 conviction.

19 ~~G.~~ H. Should any license or permit issued pursuant to Part 1 of
20 Article IV of this title be lost or destroyed, duplicates will be
21 issued by the Department at a fee of One Dollar and fifty cents
22 (\$1.50).

23 ~~H.~~ I. Upon harvesting any whitetail or mule deer, or any other
24 wildlife where the hunter, according to Commission rules, is

1 required to check the wildlife in at a Department check station, the
2 taker of the wildlife shall:

3 1. Securely attach the name of the taker, time of harvest, date
4 of harvest and license number to the carcass of the wildlife;

5 2. Check in the carcass of the wildlife electronically using
6 the online check station provided on the official website of the
7 Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation or as prescribed by
8 rule of the Commission, within twenty-four (24) hours of leaving the
9 hunt area and in all cases prior to processing the carcass; and

10 3. Not remove evidence of the sex of the animal until after the
11 carcass of the animal has been checked in.

12 ~~H.~~ J. It shall be unlawful for any license or permit holder to
13 knowingly make a false statement or give false information to any
14 authorized hunter check station or to an authorized Department
15 employee when complying with the provisions of subsection ~~H~~ I of
16 this section. Information which may be collected at a Department
17 check station shall include but not be limited to the name, address,
18 license or permit number and signature of the taker, the date, time,
19 county, method or weapon of the kill, sex and weight of carcass,
20 whether or not the animal was taken on public hunting land and if so
21 in what area, or any other information which may be required by the
22 Commission.

23 ~~J.~~ K. 1. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of
24 this section or of making a false statement or giving any false

1 information in order to acquire any license or permit, pursuant to
2 the provisions of this section, shall be punishable by a fine of not
3 less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than Two Hundred
4 Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), or by imprisonment in the county jail for a
5 period not to exceed ten (10) days, or by both such fine and
6 imprisonment. Any person convicted of a second or subsequent
7 violation of the provisions of this section or of making a false
8 statement or giving any false information in order to acquire any
9 license or permit, pursuant to the provisions of this section, shall
10 be punishable by a fine of not less than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars
11 (\$250.00) nor more than Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00), or by
12 imprisonment in the county jail for a period not to exceed ten (10)
13 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

14 2. Any hunting or fishing license issued to a person by the
15 Department of Wildlife Conservation shall be automatically revoked
16 upon conviction of the person of violating the provisions of this
17 section. The revocation shall be for a period set by the court of
18 not less than one (1) year nor more than ten (10) years. If the
19 court does not set a period, the revocation shall be for one (1)
20 year from the date of the conviction. During this period of
21 revocation, the Department shall not issue the person a hunting or
22 fishing license. If the court does not set a revocation period, the
23 Department shall not issue that person a license within one (1) year
24 of the conviction of the person pursuant to this section. A person

1 who has a license or permit revoked pursuant to this section shall
2 surrender the revoked license or permit to the court, or the court
3 may order the defendant to surrender the license or permit directly
4 to an officer from the Department of Wildlife Conservation present
5 at the hearing. If the license or permit is surrendered to the
6 court, the court shall send the Department of Wildlife Conservation
7 the revoked license. The court shall also send the Department a
8 copy of the judgment of conviction. For purposes of this section,
9 "conviction" shall include a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to an
10 offense or the imposition of deferred adjudication for an offense.
11 In lieu of sending a paper copy of the documents and information
12 required by this subsection, the court clerk may transmit the
13 conviction information by using an electronic method authorized by
14 the Department of Wildlife Conservation.

15 ~~K.~~ L. Any person who has had their license privileges revoked
16 shall not be entitled to purchase, apply for, or exercise the
17 benefits conferred by any license until the revocation period has
18 expired or the person has obtained approval from the Director. Any
19 person violating the provisions of this subsection, upon conviction,
20 shall be punished by a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars
21 (\$500.00), or by imprisonment in a county jail for a term of not
22 more than ninety (90) days or by both the fine and imprisonment.
23 Upon conviction under this subsection, the previously granted

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1 license revocation period shall be extended by two (2) additional
2 years.

3 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 29 O.S. 2021, Section 4-112, as
4 last amended by Section 3, Chapter 6, O.S.L. 2024 (29 O.S. Supp.
5 2024, Section 4-112), is amended to read as follows:

6 A. Except as otherwise provided for in the Oklahoma Wildlife
7 Conservation Code or the Oklahoma Farmed Cervidae Act, no person may
8 hunt, pursue, trap, harass, catch, kill, take or attempt to take in
9 any manner, use, have in possession, sell, or transport all or any
10 portion of any wildlife except fish, without having first procured a
11 license from the Department of Wildlife Conservation. The Oklahoma
12 Wildlife Conservation Commission shall designate a consecutive
13 Saturday and Sunday in September of each year as free hunting days
14 in which residents of this state may hunt without first procuring a
15 hunting license pursuant to the provisions of this section.

16 B. The following legal residents of Oklahoma shall be exempt
17 from the annual hunting license requirement of paragraph 1 of
18 subsection F of this section and the following nonresidents shall be
19 exempt from the annual nonresident hunting licenses required
20 pursuant to paragraph 1 of subsection C of this section:

- 21 1. Legal residents under eighteen (18) years of age;
- 22 2. Legal residents sixty-five (65) years of age or older
23 provided they have obtained a senior citizen lifetime hunting or
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1 combination hunting and fishing license pursuant to the provisions
2 of Section 4-114 of this title;

3 3. Legal resident veterans having a disability of sixty percent
4 (60%) or more and registered with the veterans registry created by
5 the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs; provided, that if the
6 veteran has previously received an exemption pursuant to this
7 paragraph, no registration with the veterans registry shall be
8 required;

9 4. Legal resident owners or tenants who hunt on land owned or
10 leased by them;

11 5. Any nonresident who hunts on land he or she owns that:

12 a. is a minimum of one hundred sixty (160) acres,

13 b. the nonresident has paid property taxes on the land
14 for the previous year, and

15 c. the nonresident has shown proof of both ownership and
16 paid taxes to the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife
17 Conservation;

18 6. Any nonresident under eighteen (18) years of age;

19 ~~6.~~ 7. Legal residents having a proven disability which renders
20 them nonambulatory and confines them to a wheelchair, as certified
21 by a physician licensed in this state or in any state which borders
22 this state;

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1 ~~7.~~ 8. Any legal resident or nonresident under eighteen (18)
2 years of age who is in the physical custody of a child care facility
3 as defined by Section 402 of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

4 ~~8.~~ 9. Any legal resident or nonresident hunting, pursuing,
5 trapping, harassing, catching, killing, taking, or attempting to
6 take in any manner any species of rattlesnake during an organized
7 rattlesnake-hunting event or festival and who has a rattlesnake
8 permit issued pursuant to Section 4-143 of this title.

9 C. Except as otherwise provided for in the Oklahoma Wildlife
10 Conservation Code, the nonresident hunting licenses issued pursuant
11 to this section and the fee for each license shall be:

12 1. Annual hunting license for nonresidents which expires one
13 (1) year after the date of issuance - Two Hundred Eight Dollars
14 (\$208.00);

15 2. Gun hunting license for deer for nonresidents which shall be
16 valid for hunting all deer allowed during the current calendar year
17 deer gun season - Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) in addition to the
18 nonresident annual hunting license required in paragraph 1 of this
19 subsection;

20 3. Archery hunting license for deer for nonresidents which
21 shall expire on January 15 of the calendar year after the year
22 purchased or, if purchased during the deer archery season, it shall
23 expire at the end of that deer archery season - Five Hundred Dollars
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1 (\$500.00) in addition to the nonresident annual hunting license
2 required in paragraph 1 of this subsection;

3 4. Primitive firearms hunting license for deer for nonresidents
4 which shall be valid for hunting all deer allowed during the current
5 calendar year deer primitive firearms season - Five Hundred Dollars
6 (\$500.00) in addition to the nonresident annual hunting license
7 required in paragraph 1 of this subsection;

8 5. Hunting license for antelope for nonresidents - Five Hundred
9 Five Dollars (\$505.00);

10 6. Hunting license for elk for nonresidents - Five Hundred Five
11 Dollars (\$505.00);

12 7. Five-day hunting license for nonresidents hunting game other
13 than deer, antelope, elk, quail, turkey, bear, or waterfowl -
14 Seventy-four Dollars (\$74.00);

15 8. Annual youth hunting license for nonresidents under eighteen
16 (18) years of age, which shall include all species and all seasons
17 for which a hunting license is required - One Hundred Fifty Dollars
18 (\$150.00);

19 9. Five-day youth hunting license for nonresidents under
20 eighteen (18) years of age, which shall include all species and all
21 seasons for which a hunting license is required - Seventy-five
22 Dollars (\$75.00); and

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1 10. Five-day hunting license for nonresidents hunting winged
2 upland game, excluding wild turkey, in a commercial hunting area -
3 Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00).

4 D. These licenses shall be required for hunting in a commercial
5 hunt area:

6 1. Five-day hunting license for nonresidents hunting big game
7 or combination big game - Seventy-four Dollars (\$74.00);

8 2. Ten-day hunting license for nonresidents hunting small game
9 and upland winged game, excluding turkeys - Twenty Dollars (\$20.00);

10 3. Annual hunting license for nonresidents hunting big game or
11 combination big game - One Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$175.00);
12 and

13 4. Five-day hunting license for nonresidents hunting winged
14 upland game, excluding wild turkey, in a commercial hunting area -
15 Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00).

16 E. For the purpose of hunting in a commercial hunting area,
17 nonresidents who acquire a license pursuant to subsection D of this
18 section shall be exempted from licensure requirements in subsection
19 C of this section.

20 F. Except as otherwise provided, the resident hunting licenses
21 issued pursuant to this section and the fee for each license shall
22 be:

23 1. Annual hunting license for residents eighteen (18) years of
24 age and older - Thirty-five Dollars (\$35.00);

1 2. Annual youth hunting license for residents under eighteen
2 (18) years of age, which shall include all species and all season
3 for which a hunting license is required - Twenty-five Dollars
4 (\$25.00);

5 3. Ten-day hunting license for residents for small game and
6 upland winged game, excluding wild turkeys in a commercial hunting
7 area - Five Dollars (\$5.00);

8 4. Five-year disability hunting combination hunting/fishing
9 license for residents for at least six (6) months who are receiving
10 Social Security Disability benefits, Supplemental Security Income
11 benefits or disability benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act,
12 45 U.S.C.A., Section 231a, or residents who are one-hundred-percent
13 disabled and are receiving disability payments from the Multiple
14 Injury Trust Fund pursuant to Section 31 of Title 85A of the
15 Oklahoma Statutes - Twenty Dollars (\$20.00);

16 5. Gun hunting license for deer for residents eighteen (18)
17 years of age or older, which shall include all deer allowed for
18 harvesting during gun season - Thirty-five Dollars (\$35.00). The
19 following persons shall be exempt:

- 20 a. residents with proper certification from the United
21 States Department of Veterans Affairs or its
22 successor, certifying that the person is a disabled
23 veteran in receipt of compensation at the one-hundred-
24 percent rate and registered with the veterans registry

1 created by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans
2 Affairs; provided that if the veteran has previously
3 received an exemption pursuant to this subparagraph,
4 no registration with the veterans registry shall be
5 required, and

- 6 b. residents hunting in big game or combination big game
7 and upland game commercial hunting areas;

8 6. Archery hunting license for deer for residents eighteen (18)
9 years of age or older, which shall include all deer allowed for
10 harvesting during archery season - Thirty-five Dollars (\$35.00).

11 The following persons shall be exempt:

- 12 a. residents with proper certification from the United
13 States Department of Veterans Affairs or its
14 successor, certifying that the person is a disabled
15 veteran in receipt of compensation at the one-hundred-
16 percent rate and registered with the veterans registry
17 created by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans
18 Affairs; provided that if the veteran has previously
19 received an exemption pursuant to this subparagraph,
20 no registration with the veterans registry shall be
21 required, and
- 22 b. residents hunting in big game or combination big game
23 and upland game commercial hunting areas;

1 7. Primitive firearms hunting license for deer for residents
2 eighteen (18) years of age or older, which shall include all deer
3 allowed for harvesting during primitive firearm season - Thirty-five
4 Dollars (\$35.00). The following persons shall be exempt:

5 a. residents with proper certification from the United
6 States Department of Veterans Affairs or its
7 successor, certifying that the person is a disabled
8 veteran in receipt of compensation at the one-hundred-
9 percent rate and registered with the veterans registry
10 created by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans
11 Affairs; provided that if the veteran has previously
12 received an exemption pursuant to this subparagraph,
13 no registration with the veterans registry shall be
14 required, and

15 b. residents hunting in big game or combination big game
16 and upland game commercial hunting areas;

17 8. Hunting license for elk for residents - Fifty Dollars
18 (\$50.00). Residents hunting in big game or combination big game and
19 upland game commercial hunting areas shall be exempt from this
20 license;

21 9. Hunting license for antelope for residents - Fifty Dollars
22 (\$50.00). Residents hunting in big game or combination big game and
23 upland game commercial hunting areas shall be exempt from this
24 license.

1 G. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to
2 require a hunting license, resident or nonresident, of any person
3 merely because the person participates, as owner or handler of an
4 entry, as an official, or as a spectator in the conduct of a field
5 trial or performance test of dogs, whether a resident or nonresident
6 of the State of Oklahoma. No license to hunt shall be required of
7 any person engaged in training or working dogs, provided that person
8 is in no way engaged in hunting and does not take or attempt to take
9 in any manner any game.

10 H. 1. Any person arrested for hunting game other than deer,
11 antelope, elk, bear or turkey without a valid hunting license as
12 required by the provisions of subsection A of this section may
13 purchase a substitute temporary thirty-day license from the
14 arresting game warden in lieu of posting bond. Proof of hunter
15 safety certification will not be required for the temporary
16 substitute license. The fee for a substitute license purchased
17 pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall be:

18 a. for legal residents, One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00),
19 and

20 b. for nonresidents, Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00).

21 2. Except as otherwise provided for by this subsection, the
22 fees from licenses purchased pursuant to the provisions of this
23 subsection shall be deposited in the Wildlife Conservation Fund to
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1 be used exclusively for developing, managing, preserving, and
2 protecting wildlife and wildlife habitat.

3 I. Any person producing proof in court that a current hunting
4 license issued by the Department of Wildlife Conservation to that
5 person was in force at the time of the alleged offense shall be
6 entitled to dismissal of a charge of violating this section upon
7 payment of court costs. If proof of a current hunting license
8 issued by the Department to the person that was in force at the time
9 of the alleged offense is presented to the court or district
10 attorney within seventy-two (72) hours after the violation, the
11 charge shall be dismissed without payment of court costs.

12 J. Unless a substitute license is purchased as provided for by
13 subsection H of this section, any resident convicted of violating
14 the provisions of this section shall be punished by the imposition
15 of a fine of not less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) nor more
16 than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), or by imprisonment in the county
17 jail for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days, or by both.

18 K. Unless a substitute license is purchased as provided for by
19 subsection H of this section, any nonresident convicted of violating
20 the provisions of this section shall be punished by the imposition
21 of a fine of not less than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) nor more
22 than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or by imprisonment in the
23 county jail for a period not to exceed six (6) months, or by both.

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1 L. The Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission shall
2 promulgate any rules necessary to implement the provisions of this
3 section.

4 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

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