

Senate Bill No. 1288

CHAPTER 410

An act to amend Section 3033 of the Fish and Game Code, relating to wildlife resources.

[Approved by Governor September 20, 2012. Filed with
Secretary of State September 20, 2012.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1288, Harman. Hunting licenses.

Under existing law, a hunting license grants the privilege to take birds and mammals. Existing law requires the Department of Fish and Game to issue a hunting license, upon payment of a fee, to eligible California residents and nonresidents, as specified. Existing law requires the department to issue a reduced fee hunting license, as specified, to a disabled veteran, as defined.

This bill would also require the department to issue a reduced fee hunting license to military personnel who are recovering service members, as defined, and who provide documentation of eligibility, as prescribed.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 3033 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:

3033. (a) The department shall, upon application and payment of a fee, issue a reduced fee hunting license, that authorizes the licensee to take any bird or mammal as otherwise authorized pursuant to this code and regulations adopted pursuant thereto, to a disabled veteran, as defined in subdivision (b), or to a recovering service member, as defined in subdivision (c), who has not been convicted of any violation of this code. The base license fee for a reduced fee hunting license shall be four dollars (\$4) for the hunting license year beginning on July 1, 1995, and, for the following years, this license fee may be annually reviewed and adjusted in accordance with Section 713.

(b) "Disabled veteran" means a person having a 50 percent or greater service-connected disability and an honorable discharge from military service. The person shall be eligible upon presentation of proof of an honorable discharge from military service and proof of the disability. Proof of the disability shall be by certification from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or by presentation of a license issued pursuant to this section in the preceding license year.

(c) "Recovering service member" means a member of the military who meets the definition of "recovering service member" in Section 1602(7) of

the federal National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Public Law 110-181). A person shall be eligible for a reduced fee hunting license pursuant to this subdivision upon the submission of a letter, online or in hardcopy, to the department from that person's commanding officer or from a military medical doctor stating that the person is a recovering service member.

(d) A person applying for a reduced fee hunting license shall submit to the department adequate documentation for the department to determine whether the person is, in fact, eligible for a reduced fee hunting license. The department shall not issue a reduced fee hunting license to any person unless it is satisfied that the person has provided adequate documentation of eligibility for that license.