

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 27, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 10, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1844**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Gallagher**  
**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Baker, Bigelow, Brough, Dodd,**  
**and Wagner)**

(Coauthors: Senators Berryhill and Morrell)

February 9, 2016

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An act to amend ~~Section 714 of, and to add Sections 3034, 7152, and 7152.5 to, Sections 714, 3031.2, and 7149.2 of the Fish and Game Code,~~ relating to fish and wildlife.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1844, as amended, Gallagher. Hunting and fishing licenses: reduced license fees: veterans.

Under existing law, a hunting license grants the privilege to take birds and mammals. Existing law requires the Department of Fish and Wildlife to issue a hunting license for specified periods of time, including for a term of one year, as provided, upon payment of a fee, to eligible residents and nonresidents. Existing law requires the department to issue a lifetime hunting license, upon payment of a fee, to eligible California residents that authorizes a person to take birds and mammals for the life of the person, as prescribed. Under existing law, a sport fishing license grants the privilege to take fish, reptiles, and amphibians. Existing law requires the department to issue a sport fishing license for specified periods of time, including for the period of a calendar year, as provided, upon payment of a fee, to eligible residents and

nonresidents. Existing law requires the department to issue a lifetime sport fishing license, upon payment of a fee, to eligible California residents that authorizes a person to take fish, reptiles, and amphibians for the life of the person, as prescribed. Existing law requires the department to issue lifetime sportsman’s licenses, upon payment of a fee, to eligible California residents that authorizes a person to take birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, and amphibians for the life of the person, as prescribed.

This bill would require the department to reduce the fee required to obtain the ~~above-described~~ *lifetime* licenses by 25% for a person who is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States, was honorably discharged, and is a resident of California.

~~Under existing law, the department issues sport fishing report cards and validations upon payment of specified fees that authorize various activities relating to the taking and possession of amphibians, reptiles, and fish for purposes other than profit.~~

~~This bill would require the department to reduce the fee required to obtain a sport fishing report card, validation, or other entitlement by 25% for a person who is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States, was honorably discharged, and is a resident of California and by 50% for a person who meets those requirements and who also has a 50% or greater service-connected disability.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 714 of the Fish and Game Code is  
2 amended to read:  
3 714. (a) In addition to Section 3031, 3031.2, 7149.05, or  
4 7149.2 and notwithstanding Section 3037, the department shall  
5 issue lifetime sportsman’s licenses pursuant to this section. A  
6 lifetime sportsman’s license authorizes the taking of birds,  
7 mammals, fish, reptiles, or amphibians anywhere in this state in  
8 accordance with law for purposes other than profit for the life of  
9 the person to whom issued unless revoked for a violation of this  
10 code or regulations adopted pursuant to this code. A lifetime  
11 sportsman’s license is not transferable. A lifetime sportsman’s  
12 license does not include any special tags, stamps, or other  
13 entitlements.

1 (b) A lifetime sportsman’s license may be issued to residents,  
2 as follows:

3 (1) To a person 62 years of age or over upon payment of a base  
4 fee of seven hundred thirty dollars (\$730).

5 (2) To a person 40 years of age or over and less than 62 years  
6 of age upon payment of a base fee of one thousand eighty dollars  
7 (\$1,080).

8 (3) To a person 10 years of age or over and less than 40 years  
9 of age upon payment of a base fee of one thousand two hundred  
10 dollars (\$1,200).

11 (4) To a person less than 10 years of age upon payment of a  
12 base fee of seven hundred thirty dollars (\$730).

13 (c) This section does not require a person less than 16 years of  
14 age to obtain a license to take fish, reptiles, or amphibians for  
15 purposes other than profit or to obtain a license to take birds or  
16 mammals, except as required by law.

17 (d) This section does not exempt an applicant for a license from  
18 meeting other qualifications or requirements otherwise established  
19 by law for the privilege of sport hunting or sport fishing.

20 (e) Upon payment of a base fee of four hundred forty-five dollars  
21 (\$445), a person holding a lifetime hunting license or lifetime  
22 sportsman’s license shall be issued annually one deer tag  
23 application pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 4332 and five  
24 wild pig tags issued pursuant to Section 4654. Lifetime privileges  
25 issued pursuant to this subdivision are not transferable.

26 (f) Upon payment of a base fee of two hundred ten dollars  
27 (\$210), a person holding a lifetime hunting license or lifetime  
28 sportsman’s license shall be entitled annually to the privileges  
29 afforded to a person holding a state duck stamp or validation issued  
30 pursuant to Section 3700.1 and an upland game bird stamp or  
31 validation issued pursuant to Section 3682.1. Lifetime privileges  
32 issued pursuant to this subdivision are not transferable.

33 (g) The base fees specified in this section are applicable  
34 commencing January 1, 2004, and shall be adjusted annually  
35 thereafter pursuant to Section 713.

36 (h) *The department shall reduce the fee required to obtain a*  
37 *lifetime sportsman’s license issued pursuant to subdivision (a) by*  
38 *25 percent for a person who is a veteran of the Armed Forces of*  
39 *the United States and who was honorably discharged.*

40 (~~h~~)

1 (i) The commission shall adjust the amount of the fees specified  
2 in subdivision (g), as necessary, to fully recover, but not exceed,  
3 all reasonable administrative implementation costs of the  
4 department and the commission relating to those licenses.

5 ~~(i) (1) The department shall reduce the fee required to obtain  
6 a lifetime sportsman's license issued pursuant to subdivision (a)  
7 by 25 percent for a person who is a veteran of the Armed Forces  
8 of the United States and who was honorably discharged.~~

9 ~~(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (h), the commission shall not  
10 increase the fees required to obtain a lifetime sportsman's license  
11 for a person not receiving the discount pursuant to paragraph (1)  
12 to recover the cost of providing the discount.~~

13 ~~SEC. 2.— Section 3034 is added to the Fish and Game Code, to  
14 read:~~

15 ~~3034. (a) The department shall reduce the fee required to obtain  
16 hunting licenses specified in Sections 3031 and 3031.2 by 25  
17 percent for a person who meets the following requirements:~~

18 ~~(1) The person is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United  
19 States and was honorably discharged.~~

20 ~~(2) The person is a resident of California.~~

21 ~~(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (c) of Section 3031 and  
22 subdivision (f) of Section 3031.2, the commission shall not increase  
23 the fees required to obtain the licenses specified in Sections 3031  
24 and 3031.2 for a person not receiving the discount pursuant to this  
25 section to recover the cost of providing the discount.~~

26 ~~SEC. 3.— Section 7152 is added to the Fish and Game Code, to  
27 read:~~

28 ~~7152. (a) The department shall reduce the fee required to obtain  
29 sport fishing licenses specified in Sections 7149.05 and 7149.2 by  
30 25 percent for a person who meets the following requirements:~~

31 ~~(1) The person is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United  
32 States and was honorably discharged.~~

33 ~~(2) The person is a resident of California.~~

34 ~~(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (c) of Section 7149.05 or  
35 Section 7149.2, the commission shall not increase the fees required  
36 to obtain the licenses specified in Sections 7149.05 and 7149.2 for  
37 a person not receiving the discount pursuant to this section to  
38 recover the cost of providing the discount.~~

39 ~~SEC. 4.— Section 7152.5 is added to the Fish and Game Code,  
40 to read:~~

1 ~~7152.5. (a) The department shall reduce the fee, including the~~  
2 ~~fee specified in subdivision (e) of Section 7149.2, required to~~  
3 ~~obtain any sport fishing report card, validation, or other entitlement~~  
4 ~~required in addition to a valid sport fishing license to take an~~  
5 ~~amphibian, reptile, or fish by 25 percent for a person who meets~~  
6 ~~the following requirements:~~

7 ~~(1) The person is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United~~  
8 ~~States and was honorably discharged.~~

9 ~~(2) The person is a resident of California.~~

10 ~~(b) The department shall reduce the fee, including the fee~~  
11 ~~specified in subdivision (e) of Section 7149.2, required to obtain~~  
12 ~~any sport fishing report card, validation, or other entitlement~~  
13 ~~required in addition to a valid sport fishing license to take an~~  
14 ~~amphibian, reptile, or fish by 50 percent for a person who meets~~  
15 ~~the following requirements:~~

16 ~~(1) The person is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United~~  
17 ~~States and was honorably discharged.~~

18 ~~(2) The person has a 50 percent or greater service-connected~~  
19 ~~disability.~~

20 ~~(3) The person is a resident of California.~~

21 ~~(e) Notwithstanding subdivision (g) of Section 6596.1,~~  
22 ~~subdivision (e) of Section 7149.8, or any other law, the commission~~  
23 ~~shall not increase the fee required to obtain a sport fishing report~~  
24 ~~card, validation, or other entitlement for a person not receiving the~~  
25 ~~discount pursuant to this section to recover the cost of providing~~  
26 ~~the discount.~~

27 *SEC. 2. Section 3031.2 of the Fish and Game Code is amended*  
28 *to read:*

29 3031.2. (a) In addition to Sections 714 and 3031, and  
30 notwithstanding Section 3037, the department shall issue lifetime  
31 hunting licenses under this section. A lifetime hunting license  
32 authorizes the taking of birds and mammals anywhere in this state  
33 in accordance with the law for purposes other than profit for the  
34 life of the person to whom issued unless revoked for a violation  
35 of this code or regulations adopted under this code. A lifetime  
36 hunting license is not transferable. A lifetime hunting license does  
37 not include any special tags, stamps, or fees.

38 (b) A lifetime hunting license may be issued to residents of this  
39 state, as follows:

1 (1) To a person 62 years of age or over, upon payment of a base  
2 fee of three hundred sixty-five dollars (\$365).

3 (2) To a person 40 years of age or over, and less than 62 years  
4 of age, upon payment of a base fee of five hundred forty dollars  
5 (\$540).

6 (3) To a person 10 years of age or over, and less than 40 years  
7 of age, upon payment of a base fee of six hundred dollars (\$600).

8 (4) To a person less than 10 years of age, upon payment of a  
9 base fee of three hundred sixty-five dollars (\$365).

10 (c) Nothing in this section requires a person less than 16 years  
11 of age to obtain a license to take birds or mammals except as  
12 required by law.

13 (d) Nothing in this section exempts an applicant for a license  
14 from meeting other qualifications or requirements otherwise  
15 established by law for the privilege of sport hunting.

16 (e) The base fees specified in this section are applicable  
17 commencing January 1, 2004, and shall be adjusted annually  
18 thereafter pursuant to Section 713.

19 (f) *The department shall reduce the fee required to obtain a*  
20 *lifetime hunting license issued pursuant to this section by 25*  
21 *percent for a person who is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the*  
22 *United States and who was honorably discharged.*

23 ~~(f)~~

24 (g) The commission shall adjust the amount of the fees specified  
25 in subdivision (b), as necessary, to fully recover, but not exceed,  
26 all reasonable administrative and implementation costs of the  
27 department and the commission relating to those licenses.

28 *SEC. 3. Section 7149.2 of the Fish and Game Code is amended*  
29 *to read:*

30 7149.2. (a) In addition to Sections 714 and 7149.05, the  
31 department shall issue a lifetime sport fishing license under this  
32 section. A lifetime sport fishing license authorizes the taking of  
33 fish, amphibians, or reptiles anywhere in this state in accordance  
34 with the law for purposes other than profit for the life of the person  
35 to whom issued unless revoked for a violation of this code or  
36 regulations adopted under this code. A lifetime sport fishing license  
37 is not transferable. A lifetime sport fishing license does not include  
38 any special tags, stamps, or fees.

39 (b) A lifetime sport fishing license may be issued to residents  
40 of this state, as follows:

- 1 (1) To a person 62 years of age or over, upon payment of a base  
2 fee of three hundred sixty-five dollars (\$365).
- 3 (2) To a person 40 years of age or over and less than 62 years  
4 of age, upon payment of a base fee of five hundred forty dollars  
5 (\$540).
- 6 (3) To a person 10 years of age or over and less than 40 years  
7 of age upon payment of a base fee of six hundred dollars (\$600).
- 8 (4) To a person less than 10 years of age upon payment of a  
9 base fee of three hundred sixty-five dollars (\$365).
- 10 (c) Nothing in this section requires a person less than 16 years  
11 of age to obtain a license to take fish, amphibians, or reptiles for  
12 purposes other than profit.
- 13 (d) Nothing in this section exempts a license applicant from  
14 meeting other qualifications or requirements otherwise established  
15 by law for the privilege of sport fishing.
- 16 (e) Upon payment of a base fee of two hundred forty-five dollars  
17 (\$245), a person holding a lifetime sport fishing license or lifetime  
18 sportsman's license shall be entitled annually to the privileges  
19 afforded to a person holding a second-rod stamp or validation  
20 issued pursuant to Section 7149.45, a sport fishing ocean  
21 enhancement stamp or validation issued pursuant to subdivision  
22 (a) of Section 6596.1, one steelhead trout report restoration card  
23 issued pursuant to Section 7380, and one salmon punchcard issued  
24 pursuant to regulations adopted by the commission. Lifetime  
25 privileges issued pursuant to this subdivision are not transferable.
- 26 (f) The base fees specified in this section are applicable  
27 commencing January 1, 2004, and shall be adjusted annually  
28 thereafter pursuant to Section 713.
- 29 (g) *The department shall reduce the fee required to obtain a*  
30 *lifetime sport fishing license issued pursuant to this section by 25*  
31 *percent for a person who is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the*  
32 *United States and who was honorably discharged.*