

Sixty-first  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## HOUSE BILL NO.

Introduced by

Representative Headland

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 20.1-03 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to establishing a hunting mentorship program; and to amend and  
3 reenact section 20.1-03-01.3 and subsection 1 of section 20.1-03-11 of the North Dakota  
4 Century Code, relating to hunter education and age requirements.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 20.1-03-01.3 of the North Dakota Century Code  
7 is amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **20.1-03-01.3. Exemptions.** Sections 20.1-03-01.1 ~~through 20.1-03-01.3~~ and  
9 20.1-03-01.2 do not apply to:

- 10 1. ~~Persons~~ Individuals under twelve years of age who hunt only with their parent or  
11 legal guardian.
- 12 2. ~~Persons~~ Individuals who hunt exclusively on land of which they are the record title  
13 owner or operator.
- 14 3. Individuals hunting with a mentor as provided under section 3 of this Act.

15 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 20.1-03-11 of the North Dakota  
16 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 17 1. ~~No person shall~~ An individual may not hunt, kill, take, or attempt to take ~~any~~ big  
18 game without having the appropriate big game hunting license and a locking seal  
19 bearing a number corresponding to the number of the big game hunting license or  
20 stamp. The locking seal ~~shall~~ must be issued as an integral part of the big game  
21 hunting license. ~~No person~~ Except as provided in section 3 of this Act, an  
22 individual may not apply for or be issued a big game hunting license if that  
23 person's fourteenth birthday does not occur on or before the opening date of the  
24 respective big game hunting season. This age limitation does not apply to

applicants for big game licenses for hunting by bow and arrow. Each violation of this section ~~shall be~~ is a distinct and separate offense.

**SECTION 3.** A new section to chapter 20.1-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**Hunting mentorship program.**

1. A resident who is at least twelve years of age or older may hunt deer in this state without possessing a hunter safety education course certificate of completion and while hunting, may, possess or control a firearm if:
  - a. At all times while hunting, the individual is within arm's reach of a mentor who meets the qualifications of subsection 2;
  - b. The individual holds all required licenses and stamps.
2. An individual may not serve as a mentor for a hunter unless:
  - a. The mentor is 18 years of age or older;
  - b. The mentor is the parent or guardian of the individual for whom the individual is serving as a mentor or is authorized by the parent or guardian to serve as a mentor. This requirement does not apply to an individual serving as a mentor for an individual who is 18 years of age or older;
  - c. At all times while serving as a mentor, the mentor is within arm's reach of the individual for whom the mentor is serving as a mentor;
  - d. The mentor possesses a hunter safety education course certificate of completion, unless that individual was born before January 1, 1961, and is not required to obtain a hunter safety education course certificate of completion; and
  - e. The mentor holds all required licenses and stamps.
3. A mentor under this section may take only one individual, for whom the individual is serving as a mentor, hunting at a time.
4. The director shall develop and issue a pamphlet containing hunter safety information to each individual hunting under this section who is not required to possess a hunter safety education course certificate of completion.
5. An individual and mentor hunting under this section may possess only one gun between them while hunting.