

**Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2025**

SENATE BILL NO. 2155
(Senators Cleary, Bekkedahl)
(Representatives Bosch, Steiner)

AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 5 of section 20.1-03-11 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to gratis antelope licenses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 5 of section 20.1-03-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

5. a. A resident that is an individual, corporation, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, limited partnership, partnership, trust, or life estate, and has executed a lease for at least one hundred fifty acres [60.70 hectares] of land that the resident actively farms or ranches; or a resident that is an individual, corporation, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, limited partnership, partnership, trust, or life estate, and holds title to at least one hundred fifty acres [60.70 hectares] of land, is eligible to submit one application for a license to hunt antelope without charge upon filing a signed application describing that land. The land must be within a unit open for the hunting of antelope. The license must include a legal description of the eligible land described in the completed application and may be used to hunt antelope only upon that land. Upon request, a lessee shall provide proof that the land described in the completed application is leased for agricultural purposes. If not otherwise specified in an agricultural lease, the landowner is entitled to receive the license. An individual licensed under this subsection must be a resident.
- b. If the eligible applicant is a corporation, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, limited partnership, partnership, trust, or life estate, only one license may be issued, and the license must be issued in the name of an individual shareholder, member, partner, beneficiary, or holder of a life estate.
- c. A resident who is eligible for a license under this subsection may transfer that eligibility for the license to a spouse or legal dependent residing customarily with the resident, but no more than one license may be issued under this subsection for any qualifying land. A resident transferring eligibility under this subsection may not receive a license under this subsection for the season for which eligibility was transferred. If not otherwise specified in an agricultural lease, the landowner is entitled to receive the license.
- d. ~~The~~Except as provided in paragraph 2, the number of licenses issued without charge under this subsection may not exceed ~~the total number~~one-half of the number of licenses ~~of any pronghorn license type~~ prescribed for each district or unit in the governor's proclamation.
 - (1) If the number of eligible persons who apply for licenses issued without charge under this subsection exceeds the number of licenses prescribed for the district or unit in the governor's proclamation less any licenses that are otherwise designated to be issued with a charge under this subsection, the licenses to be issued without charge must be issued by lottery as prescribed in the governor's proclamation. ~~If the number of licenses prescribed for the district or unit in the governor's proclamation exceeds fifty and if the number of applications for these licenses exceeds the number of licenses prescribed for the district or unit in the governor's proclamation, then one-half of the licenses exceeding fifty must be issued by lottery as prescribed~~

~~in the governor's proclamation and may not be issued to landowners without charge.~~

- (2) If an eligible person is unsuccessful in receiving a license without charge under paragraph 1, the application for a license without charge may be included in a lottery for remaining licenses issued for the district or unit as prescribed by the governor's proclamation.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2155.

Senate Vote: Yeas 30 Nays 16 Absent 1

House Vote: Yeas 75 Nays 14 Absent 5

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2025.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2025.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2025,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State