

Fifty-fifth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1303**

Introduced by

Representative Carlson

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 20.1-03-17, 20.1-03-18, 20.1-03-19, and  
2 20.1-03-20 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to issuance of game and fish licenses by  
3 county auditors.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 20.1-03-17 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **20.1-03-17. Issuance of licenses - Who to issue - ~~County auditor~~ Director may**  
8 **appoint agents to receive service fees - Disposition of proceeds.** All hunting, fur-bearer,  
9 fishing, and taxidermists' licenses must be issued by ~~county auditors~~, the director, deputy  
10 director, and bonded game wardens. The deputy director and each bonded game warden shall  
11 send the director all license fees. ~~For each license the county auditor issues, the county auditor~~  
12 ~~shall collect the authorized charges and record them in the county auditor's record of cash~~  
13 ~~received. The county auditor shall retain, as compensation, twenty five cents for the issuance~~  
14 ~~of each of the first one thousand resident hunting, fishing, or fur bearer licenses issued each~~  
15 ~~year and fifteen cents for the issuance of each resident hunting, fishing, or fur bearer license~~  
16 ~~issued in excess of the first one thousand licenses issued each year; one dollar for the issuance~~  
17 ~~of each nonresident hunting or fur bearer license; twenty five cents for the issuance of each~~  
18 ~~nonresident fishing license; and ten cents for the issuance of each nonresident general game~~  
19 ~~license.~~

20 The ~~county auditor~~ director may appoint agents to distribute hunting and fishing licenses  
21 or stamps. The ~~county auditor~~ director may require agents to show evidence of adequate  
22 financial security before the agents are appointed. Adequate financial security may be  
23 evidenced by a letter of credit, cash deposit, or bond. Agents may be bonded through the state  
24 bonding fund. The agents may charge purchasers a service fee of fifty cents for each license.

1 Service fees may be retained by the agent. The remainder of the license fees must be returned  
2 to the ~~county auditor~~ director, for deposit ~~with in~~ in the ~~county treasurer~~ game and fish fund, at  
3 least once each month, and not later than three days after the close of the month.

4 Notwithstanding section 26.1-21-11, if a claim against the state bonding fund is not filed within  
5 sixty days of the expiration of the reporting period provided in this section, the claim is waived.

6 Deposits are to be accompanied by a report showing the amounts received from the sale of  
7 each type of license, the amount retained, and the net amounts deposited. ~~The county~~  
8 ~~treasurer shall credit the fees so deposited to a separate account and shall hold the fees,~~  
9 ~~subject to warrant for payment thereof drawn by the county auditor in favor of the director. The~~  
10 ~~director shall deposit all license or stamp fees received with the state treasurer to be credited to~~  
11 ~~the game and fish fund.~~

12 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 20.1-03-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
13 amended and reenacted as follows:

14 **20.1-03-18. ~~County auditors~~ Agents to file applications and stubs - Game officials**  
15 **may inspect file - Return of unused supplies.** Each ~~county auditor~~ agent appointed by the  
16 director shall keep on file all license applications the ~~auditor~~ agent receives and all the stubs of  
17 licenses the ~~auditor~~ agent issues. These applications and stubs may be inspected at any time  
18 by the director or the director's duly authorized deputies and wardens. Within thirty days after  
19 the close of each open season, the ~~auditor~~ agent shall transmit to the director all applications,  
20 stubs, and unused or mutilated licenses covering that open season.

21 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 20.1-03-19 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
22 amended and reenacted as follows:

23 **20.1-03-19. When reports and remittances to be made by ~~county auditors~~ agents**  
24 **to the director.** Each ~~county auditor~~ agent, on the first day of February and August of each  
25 year, and within thirty days after the close of each open season, shall make a complete report  
26 of all license sales to the director on forms furnished by the director, ~~accompanied by a warrant~~  
27 ~~drawn on the county treasurer to cover such report.~~

28 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 20.1-03-20 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
29 amended and reenacted as follows:

30 **20.1-03-20. Bonds of ~~county auditors~~ and agents applicable to duties imposed by**  
31 **this title.** The official bond of each ~~county auditor~~ and of each agent bonded through the state

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- 1 bonding fund and appointed by the ~~county auditor~~ director to distribute hunting and fishing
- 2 licenses or stamps applies to all duties required of ~~county auditors and~~ agents under this title,
- 3 including the liability for all moneys required to be collected or received by ~~county auditors and~~
- 4 agents under this title for the issuance of licenses.