



House Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Testimony on HB 1409

North Dakota Game and Fish Department
Brian Hosek, Business Operations Manager
February 3, 2023

Chairman Porter and members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee, my name is Brian Hosek and I'm the Business Operations Manager of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department. I am testifying today in support of HB 1409.

The Department frequently promotes opportunity for hunters and anglers and closely monitors participation to better understand that opportunity in the future. States have varying regulations when it comes to offering similar licenses or even defining game. The passage of this bill will make these opportunities consistent for all youth regardless of the offerings in their state.

The Department understands we are blessed with these resources and these experiences for youth plant a seed for their future. These experiences can result in future visits from these individuals or even having some consider making North Dakota their home.

The Department would recommend some amendments to the current version of the bill. In addition to the removal of the reciprocity of youth licenses, we would propose amendments to change the required licenses for nonresident youth from small game to general game; define the age eligibility to the time of purchase; and to clarify the season regulations for the youth and adult family member or legal guardian.

This bill and proposed amendments provide some consistency and clarity of existing law. For these reasons, the Department respectfully requests a DO PASS on HB 1409. This concludes my testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions.

23.0759.01000

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1409

Page 1, line 7, replace "resident small game" with "general game"

Page 1, line 11, remove "may"

Page 1, line 12, remove "not have arrived at the age of sixteen before September first of the year
for which the license is"

Page 1, line 13, remove "issued and"

Page 1, line 15, remove "youth"

Page 1, line 16, remove "regulations and"; " : "

Page 1, line 16, add "during the regular season. In addition, the nonresident youth may
hunt small game or waterfowl during the youth seasons only under the supervision of an
adult family member or legal guardian and is subject to the youth regulations during the
youth seasons."

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1409

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 20.1-03-07.2 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to nonresident youth hunting licenses for small game and waterfowl.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 20.1-03-07.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **20.1-03-07.2. Nonresident youth hunting licenses.**

7 A nonresident youth who is less than sixteen years of age may purchase a ~~resident small game~~
8 ~~general game~~ hunting license and may hunt small game and waterfowl except swans and wild
9 turkeys; ~~provided, that the nonresident youth's state, or province or territory of Canada, of~~
10 ~~residence provides a reciprocal licensing agreement for North Dakota residents who are less~~
11 ~~than sixteen years of age.~~ To be eligible to purchase a license under this section, a nonresident
12 youth ~~may not have arrived at the age of sixteen before September first of the year for which~~
13 ~~the license is issued and~~ must possess a certificate of completion for a certified hunter
14 education course. The nonresident youth may ~~only~~ hunt only under the supervision of an adult
15 family member or legal guardian who is licensed to hunt small game or waterfowl in this state
16 and is subject to ~~youth regulations and~~ the same regulations as that youth's adult family
17 member or legal guardian ~~—during the regular season. In addition, the nonresident youth may~~
18 ~~hunt small game or waterfowl during the youth seasons only under the supervision of an adult~~
19 ~~family member or legal guardian and is subject to the youth regulations during the youth~~
20 ~~seasons.~~ This section does not apply to the hunting of big game or to a license issued by lottery.