

**As Passed by the House**

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**H. B. No. 165**

**Representative Green**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Brenner, Rezabek, Kraus, Derickson, Terhar, Grossman, Maag, Amstutz, Anielski, Antani, Arndt, Boccieri, Boose, Brown, Buchy, Burkley, Butler, Celebrezze, Cera, Cupp, Dever, DeVitis, Fedor, Ginter, Hambley, Hayes, Hill, Huffman, Johnson, T., Landis, Lepore-Hagan, McColley, O'Brien, M., O'Brien, S., Patterson, Pelanda, Perales, Phillips, Ramos, Retherford, Rogers, Romanchuk, Ryan, Scherer, Smith, R., Sprague, Strahorn, Thompson, Speaker Rosenberger**

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**A BILL**

To amend section 1533.12 of the Revised Code to  
allow an individual on active military duty,  
while on leave or furlough, to hunt deer or wild  
turkey without procuring a deer or wild turkey  
permit.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 1533.12 of the Revised Code be  
amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 1533.12.** (A) (1) Except as otherwise provided in  
division (A) (2) of this section, every person on active duty in  
the armed forces of the United States who is stationed in this  
state and who wishes to engage in an activity for which a  
license, permit, or stamp is required under this chapter first  
shall obtain the requisite license, permit, or stamp. Such a  
person is eligible to obtain a resident hunting or fishing

license regardless of whether the person qualifies as a resident 15  
of this state. To obtain a resident hunting or fishing license, 16  
the person shall present a card or other evidence identifying 17  
the person as being on active duty in the armed forces of the 18  
United States and as being stationed in this state. 19

(2) Every person on active duty in the armed forces of the 20  
United States, while on leave or furlough, may take or catch 21  
fish of the kind lawfully permitted to be taken or caught within 22  
the state, may hunt any wild bird or wild quadruped lawfully 23  
permitted to be hunted within the state, may hunt deer or wild 24  
turkey lawfully permitted to be hunted within the state, and may 25  
trap fur-bearing animals lawfully permitted to be trapped within 26  
the state, without procuring a fishing license, a hunting 27  
license, a deer or wild turkey permit, a fur taker permit, or a 28  
wetlands habitat stamp required by this chapter, provided that 29  
the person shall carry on the person when fishing, hunting, or 30  
trapping, a card or other evidence identifying the person as 31  
being on active duty in the armed forces of the United States, 32  
and provided that the person is not otherwise violating any of 33  
the hunting, fishing, and trapping laws of this state. 34

~~In order to hunt deer or wild turkey, any such person~~ 35  
~~shall obtain a deer or wild turkey permit, as applicable, under~~ 36  
~~section 1533.11 of the Revised Code. However, the person need~~ 37  
~~not obtain a hunting license in order to obtain such a permit.~~ 38

(B) The chief of the division of wildlife shall provide by 39  
rule adopted under section 1531.10 of the Revised Code all of 40  
the following: 41

(1) Every resident of this state with a disability that 42  
has been determined by the veterans administration to be 43  
permanently and totally disabling, who receives a pension or 44

compensation from the veterans administration, and who received 45  
an honorable discharge from the armed forces of the United 46  
States, and every veteran to whom the registrar of motor 47  
vehicles has issued a set of license plates under section 48  
4503.41 of the Revised Code, shall be issued a fishing license, 49  
hunting license, fur taker permit, deer or wild turkey permit, 50  
or wetlands habitat stamp, or any combination of those licenses, 51  
permits, and stamp, free of charge on an annual, multi-year, or 52  
lifetime basis as determined appropriate by the chief when 53  
application is made to the chief in the manner prescribed by and 54  
on forms provided by the chief. 55

(2) Every resident of the state who was born on or before 56  
December 31, 1937, shall be issued an annual fishing license, 57  
hunting license, fur taker permit, deer or wild turkey permit, 58  
or wetlands habitat stamp, or any combination of those licenses, 59  
permits, and stamp, free of charge when application is made to 60  
the chief in the manner prescribed by and on forms provided by 61  
the chief. 62

(3) Every resident of state or county institutions, 63  
charitable institutions, and military homes in this state shall 64  
be issued an annual fishing license free of charge when 65  
application is made to the chief in the manner prescribed by and 66  
on forms provided by the chief. 67

(4) Any mobility impaired or blind person, as defined in 68  
section 955.011 of the Revised Code, who is a resident of this 69  
state and who is unable to engage in fishing without the 70  
assistance of another person shall be issued an annual fishing 71  
license free of charge when application is made to the chief in 72  
the manner prescribed by and on forms provided by the chief. The 73  
person who is assisting the mobility impaired or blind person 74

may assist in taking or catching fish of the kind permitted to 75  
be taken or caught without procuring the license required under 76  
section 1533.32 of the Revised Code, provided that only one line 77  
is used by both persons. 78

(5) As used in division (B)(5) of this section, "prisoner 79  
of war" means any regularly appointed, enrolled, enlisted, or 80  
inducted member of the military forces of the United States who 81  
was captured, separated, and incarcerated by an enemy of the 82  
United States. 83

Any person who has been a prisoner of war, was honorably 84  
discharged from the military forces, and is a resident of this 85  
state shall be issued a fishing license, hunting license, fur 86  
taker permit, or wetlands habitat stamp, or any combination of 87  
those licenses, permits, and stamp, free of charge on an annual, 88  
multi-year, or lifetime basis as determined appropriate by the 89  
chief when application is made to the chief in the manner 90  
prescribed by and on forms provided by the chief. 91

(C) The chief shall adopt rules pursuant to section 92  
1531.08 of the Revised Code designating not more than two days, 93  
which need not be consecutive, in each year as "free sport 94  
fishing days" on which any resident may exercise the privileges 95  
accorded the holder of a fishing license issued under section 96  
1533.32 of the Revised Code without procuring such a license, 97  
provided that the person is not otherwise violating any of the 98  
fishing laws of this state. 99

**Section 2.** That existing section 1533.12 of the Revised 100  
Code is hereby repealed. 101