

House Study Bill 643

Conference Committee Text

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1 1 Section 1. Section 483A.24, subsections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and
1 2 7, Code 1995, are amended by striking the subsections and
1 3 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

1 4 2. a. As used in this subsection:

1 5 (1) "Family member" means a resident of Iowa who is the
1 6 spouse or child of the owner or tenant and who resides with
1 7 the owner or tenant.

1 8 (2) "Farm unit" means all parcels of land, not necessarily
1 9 contiguous, which are operated as a unit for agricultural
1 10 purposes and which are under the lawful control of the owner
1 11 or tenant.

1 12 (3) "Owner" means an owner of a farm unit who is a
1 13 resident of Iowa and who is one of the following:

1 14 (a) Is the sole operator of the farm unit.

1 15 (b) Makes all of the farm operation decisions but
1 16 contracts for custom farming or hires labor for all or part of
1 17 the work on the farm unit.

1 18 (c) Participates annually in farm operation decisions or
1 19 cropping practices on specific fields of the farm unit that
1 20 are rented to a tenant.

1 21 (d) Raises specialty crops on the farm unit including, but
1 22 not limited to, orchards, nurseries, or tree farms that do not
1 23 always produce annual income but require annual operating
1 24 decisions about maintenance or improvement.

1 25 (e) Has all or part of the farm unit enrolled in a long-
1 26 term agricultural land retirement program of the federal
1 27 government.

1 28 An "owner" does not mean a person who owns a farm unit and
1 29 who employs a farm manager or third party to operate the farm
1 30 unit, or a person who owns a farm unit and who rents the
1 31 entire farm unit to a tenant who is responsible for all farm
1 32 operations.

1 33 (4) "Tenant" means a person who is a resident of Iowa and
1 34 who rents and actively farms a farm unit owned by another
1 35 person. A member of the owner's family may be a tenant. A
2 1 person who works on the farm for a wage and is not a family
2 2 member does not qualify as a tenant.

2 3 b. Upon written application on forms furnished by the
2 4 department, the department shall issue annually without fee
2 5 one deer or one wild turkey license, or both, to the owner of
2 6 a farm unit or to a member of the owner's family, but not to
2 7 both, and to the tenant or to a member of the tenant's family,
2 8 but not to both. The deer hunting license or wild turkey
2 9 hunting license issued shall be valid only on the farm unit
2 10 for which an applicant qualifies pursuant to this subsection
2 11 and shall be equivalent to the least restrictive license
2 12 issued under section 481A.38. The owner or the tenant need
2 13 not reside on the farm unit to qualify for a free license to
2 14 hunt on that farm unit.

2 15 c. In addition to the free deer hunting license received,
2 16 an owner of a farm unit or a member of the owner's family and
2 17 the tenant or a member of the tenant's family may purchase a
2 18 deer hunting license for any option offered to paying deer
2 19 hunting licensees.

2 20

EXPLANATION

2 21 This bill strikes the current provisions of hunting laws

2 22 relating to the issuance of free deer hunting and wild turkey
2 23 hunting licenses to landowners and tenants and rewrites
2 24 definitions to specify the landowners, tenants, and family
2 25 members who qualify for the annual free hunting licenses.
2 26 Family member is defined to include the spouse or child of
2 27 the owner or tenant who resides with the owner or tenant.
2 28 Farm unit is defined to mean all parcels of land, not
2 29 necessarily contiguous, which are operated as a unit for
2 30 agricultural purposes and which are under lawful control of
2 31 the owner or tenant.
2 32 An owner is defined as a resident of Iowa who is a sole
2 33 operator of a farm unit, has the farm unit in a long-term
2 34 federal agricultural land retirement program, raises specialty
2 35 crops which require annual operating and maintenance
3 1 decisions, makes all of the farm operation decisions on the
3 2 farm unit but contracts all or part of the labor, or
3 3 participates annually in farm operation decisions or cropping
3 4 practices on specific fields that are rented to a tenant. An
3 5 owner does not qualify for a free license if the owner employs
3 6 a farm manager or a third party to operate the farm or if the
3 7 owner rents the farm unit to a tenant who is responsible for
3 8 all farm operations.
3 9 A tenant is a resident of Iowa, other than the owner, who
3 10 rents and actively farms a farm unit owned by another person.
3 11 A member of the owner's family may be a tenant. A person who
3 12 works on a farm unit for a wage and is not a family member
3 13 does not qualify as a tenant.
3 14 The bill provides that an owner and a tenant are both
3 15 eligible for a free deer license and a wild turkey license for
3 16 the same farm unit. If an owner or a tenant applies for one
3 17 or neither of the licenses, a member of the owner's or
3 18 tenant's family may apply for one or both of the licenses
3 19 which remain. The owner and tenant need not reside on the
3 20 farm unit for which a free license is issued. The licenses
3 21 issued are valid only on the farm unit and shall be equivalent
3 22 to the least restrictive license issued under section 481A.38.
3 23 This bill also provides that an owner of a farm unit or a
3 24 member of the owner's family and the tenant or a member of the
3 25 tenant's family may purchase a deer hunting license for any
3 26 option offered to paying deer hunting licensees.
3 27 LSB 4269HC 76
3 28 tj/jj/8