

**Senate Study Bill 1206 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
NATURAL RESOURCES AND  
ENVIRONMENT BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON DEARDEN)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to hunter education license requirements,  
2 providing for an apprentice hunter permit and fee, and  
3 including penalty provisions.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 483A.1, subsection 1, Code 2015, is  
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *ad.* Apprentice hunter  
4 permit ..... \$ 5.00

5 Sec. 2. Section 483A.7, subsection 3, paragraph a, Code  
6 2015, is amended to read as follows:

7 *a.* A nonresident wild turkey hunter is required to purchase  
8 a nonresident hunting license that includes the wildlife  
9 habitat fee and a nonresident wild turkey hunting license. The  
10 commission shall annually limit to two thousand three hundred  
11 licenses the number of nonresidents allowed to have wild turkey  
12 hunting licenses. Of the two thousand three hundred licenses,  
13 one hundred fifty licenses shall be valid for hunting with  
14 muzzle loading shotguns only. The commission shall allocate  
15 the nonresident wild turkey hunting licenses issued among the  
16 zones based on the populations of wild turkey. A nonresident  
17 applying for a wild turkey hunting license must exhibit proof  
18 of having successfully completed a hunter ~~safety and ethics~~  
19 education program as provided in section 483A.27 or its  
20 equivalent as determined by the department before the license  
21 is issued.

22 Sec. 3. Section 483A.8, subsection 3, paragraph d, Code  
23 2015, is amended to read as follows:

24 *d.* The commission shall allocate all nonresident deer  
25 hunting licenses issued among the zones based on the  
26 populations of deer. However, a nonresident applicant may  
27 request one or more hunting zones, in order of preference, in  
28 which the applicant wishes to hunt. If the request cannot  
29 be fulfilled, the applicable fees shall be returned to the  
30 applicant. A nonresident applying for a deer hunting license  
31 must exhibit proof of having successfully completed a hunter  
32 ~~safety and ethics~~ education program as provided in section  
33 483A.27 or its equivalent as determined by the department  
34 before the license is issued.

35 Sec. 4. Section 483A.24, subsection 3, paragraph a, Code

1 2015, is amended to read as follows:

2     *a.* Fifty of the nonresident deer hunting licenses shall be  
3 allocated as requested by a majority of a committee consisting  
4 of the majority leader of the senate, speaker of the house  
5 of representatives, and director of the economic development  
6 authority, or their designees. The licenses provided pursuant  
7 to this subsection shall be in addition to the number of  
8 nonresident licenses authorized pursuant to section 483A.8.  
9 The purpose of the special nonresident licenses is to allow  
10 state officials and local development groups to promote the  
11 state and its natural resources to nonresident guests and  
12 dignitaries. Photographs, videotapes, or any other form  
13 of media resulting from the hunting visitation shall not  
14 be used for political campaign purposes. The nonresident  
15 licenses shall be issued without application upon purchase of a  
16 nonresident hunting license that includes the wildlife habitat  
17 fee and the purchase of a nonresident deer hunting license.  
18 The licenses are valid in all zones open to deer hunting. The  
19 hunter ~~safety and ethics~~ education certificate requirement  
20 pursuant to section 483A.27 is waived for a nonresident issued  
21 a license pursuant to this subsection.

22     Sec. 5. Section 483A.24, subsection 4, paragraph a, Code  
23 2015, is amended to read as follows:

24     *a.* Fifty of the nonresident wild turkey hunting licenses  
25 shall be allocated as requested by a majority of a committee  
26 consisting of the majority leader of the senate, speaker of  
27 the house of representatives, and director of the economic  
28 development authority, or their designees. The licenses  
29 provided pursuant to this subsection shall be in addition  
30 to the number of nonresident licenses authorized pursuant  
31 to section 483A.7. The purpose of the special nonresident  
32 licenses is to allow state officials and local development  
33 groups to promote the state and its natural resources to  
34 nonresident guests and dignitaries. Photographs, videotapes,  
35 or any other form of media resulting from the hunting

1 visitation shall not be used for political campaign purposes.  
2 The nonresident licenses shall be issued without application  
3 upon purchase of a nonresident hunting license that includes  
4 the wildlife habitat fee and the purchase of a nonresident wild  
5 turkey hunting license. The licenses are valid in all zones  
6 open to wild turkey hunting. The hunter ~~safety and ethics~~  
7 education certificate requirement pursuant to section 483A.27  
8 is waived for a nonresident issued a license pursuant to this  
9 subsection.

10 Sec. 6. Section 483A.24, subsection 5, paragraph e, Code  
11 2015, is amended to read as follows:

12 e. A disabled person who receives a special license under  
13 this subsection shall complete the hunter ~~safety and ethics~~  
14 education course.

15 Sec. 7. Section 483A.24, subsection 12, paragraph d, Code  
16 2015, is amended to read as follows:

17 d. A nonresident who receives a special license pursuant to  
18 this subsection shall purchase a hunting license that includes  
19 the wildlife habitat fee and the applicable nonresident turkey  
20 or deer hunting license, but is not required to complete the  
21 hunter ~~safety and ethics~~ education course if the person is  
22 accompanied and aided by a person who is at least eighteen  
23 years of age. The accompanying person must be qualified to  
24 hunt and have a hunting license that includes the wildlife  
25 habitat fee. During the hunt, the accompanying adult must be  
26 within arm's reach of the nonresident licensee.

27 Sec. 8. Section 483A.27, Code 2015, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 **483A.27 Hunter ~~safety and ethics~~ education program — license**  
30 **requirement.**

31 1. A person born after January 1, 1972, shall not obtain a  
32 hunting license unless the person has satisfactorily completed  
33 a hunter ~~safety and ethics~~ education course approved by the  
34 commission. A person who is eleven years of age or more  
35 may enroll in an approved hunter ~~safety and ethics~~ education

1 course, but a person who is eleven years of age and who has  
2 successfully completed the course shall be issued a certificate  
3 of completion which becomes valid on the person's twelfth  
4 birthday. A certificate of completion from an approved hunter  
5 ~~safety and ethics~~ education course issued in this state, or a  
6 certificate issued by another state, country, or province for  
7 completion of a course that meets the standards adopted by the  
8 international hunter education association - United States of  
9 America, is valid for the requirements of this section.

10 2. a. A certificate of completion shall not be issued  
11 to a person who has not satisfactorily completed a minimum  
12 of ten hours of training in an approved hunter ~~safety and~~  
13 ~~ethics~~ education course. The department shall establish the  
14 curriculum based on the standards adopted by the international  
15 hunter education association - United States of America for ~~the~~  
16 ~~first ten hours of an~~ the approved hunter ~~safety and ethics~~  
17 ~~education course offered in this state~~. Upon completion  
18 of the ~~ten-hour curriculum~~ course, each person shall pass  
19 an individual oral test or a written test provided by the  
20 department. The department shall establish the criteria for  
21 successfully passing the tests. Based on the results of  
22 the test and demonstrated safe handling of a firearm, the  
23 instructor shall determine the persons who shall be issued a  
24 certificate of completion.

25 b. Notwithstanding paragraph "a", a resident who is eighteen  
26 years of age or older may obtain a certificate of completion  
27 without demonstrating the safe handling of a firearm.

28 3. The department shall provide a manual regarding hunter  
29 ~~safety and ethics~~ education which shall be used by all  
30 instructors and persons receiving hunter ~~safety and ethics~~  
31 education training in this state. The department may produce  
32 the manual in a print or electronic format accessible from  
33 a computer, including from a data storage device or the  
34 department's internet site.

35 4. The department shall provide for the certification of

1 persons who wish to become hunter ~~safety and ethics~~ education  
2 instructors. A person shall not act as an instructor in  
3 hunter ~~safety and ethics~~ education as provided in this section  
4 without first obtaining an instructor's certificate from the  
5 department.

6 5. An officer of the department or a certified instructor  
7 may issue a certificate to a person who has not completed  
8 the hunter ~~safety and ethics~~ education course but meets the  
9 criteria established by the commission.

10 6. A public or private school accredited pursuant to section  
11 256.11 or an organization approved by the department may  
12 cooperate with the department in providing a course in hunter  
13 ~~safety and ethics~~ education or shooting sports activities as  
14 provided in this section.

15 7. A hunting license obtained under this section by a  
16 person who gave false information or presented a fraudulent  
17 certificate of completion shall be revoked and a new hunting  
18 license shall not be issued for at least two years from the  
19 date of conviction. A hunting license obtained by a person  
20 who was born after January 1, 1972, but has not satisfactorily  
21 completed the hunter ~~safety and ethics~~ education course or has  
22 not met the requirements established by the commission, shall  
23 be revoked.

24 8. The commission shall adopt rules in accordance with  
25 chapter 17A as necessary to carry out the administration of  
26 this section.

27 9. The initial hunter ~~safety~~ education certificate shall be  
28 issued without cost. A duplicate certificate shall be issued  
29 at a cost of three dollars upon payment of the writing fee and  
30 administrative fee, if applicable.

31 10. A person under eighteen years of age who is required  
32 to exhibit a valid hunting license, shall also exhibit a valid  
33 certificate of completion from a state approved hunter ~~safety~~  
34 ~~and ethics~~ education course upon request of an officer of the  
35 department. A failure to carry or refusal to exhibit the

1 certificate of completion as provided in this subsection is a  
2 violation of this chapter. A violator is guilty of a simple  
3 misdemeanor as provided in section 483A.42.

4 11. An instructor certified by the department shall be  
5 allowed to conduct a department-approved hunter ~~safety and~~  
6 ~~ethics~~ education course or shooting sports activities course  
7 on public school property with the approval of a majority of  
8 the board of directors of the school district. Conducting  
9 an approved hunter ~~safety and ethics~~ education course or  
10 shooting sports activities course is not a violation of any  
11 public policy, rule, regulation, resolution, or ordinance which  
12 prohibits the possession, display, or use of a firearm, bow and  
13 arrow, or other hunting weapon on public school property or  
14 other public property in this state.

15 Sec. 9. NEW SECTION. **483A.27A Apprentice hunter permit.**

16 1. Notwithstanding section 483A.27, a resident who is  
17 sixteen years of age or older may purchase a hunting license  
18 without first completing the hunter education course if the  
19 person purchases an apprentice hunter permit and the person  
20 meets all the requirements of this section.

21 2. If the apprentice hunter is a minor, the person must  
22 be accompanied and aided while hunting by a mentor who is the  
23 person's parent or guardian, or be accompanied and aided by any  
24 other competent adult mentor with the consent of the minor's  
25 parent or guardian. If the apprentice hunter is not a minor,  
26 the apprentice hunter must be accompanied and aided while  
27 hunting by a competent adult mentor.

28 3. The mentor and the apprentice hunter must have valid  
29 hunting licenses that include the wildlife habitat fee and that  
30 are valid for the same seasons to hunt game. The mentor and the  
31 apprentice hunter must also have deer hunting licenses and tags  
32 to hunt deer and wild turkey hunting licenses and tags to hunt  
33 wild turkey, that are valid for the same seasons and zones. A  
34 transportation tag issued to an apprentice hunter shall not be  
35 used to tag a deer taken by another person.

1 4. While hunting, the apprentice hunter must be under the  
2 direct supervision of the mentor. For the purposes of this  
3 subsection, "*direct supervision*" means the mentor must maintain  
4 constant direction and control of the apprentice hunter and  
5 stay within a distance from the apprentice hunter that enables  
6 the mentor to give uninterrupted, unaided visual and auditory  
7 communications to the apprentice hunter. There must be one  
8 licensed mentor in direct supervision of each apprentice  
9 hunter.

10 5. An apprentice hunter permit issued pursuant to this  
11 section is valid from the date issued to January 10 of the  
12 succeeding calendar year for which it is issued. An apprentice  
13 hunter permit shall contain the address, signature, and a  
14 general description of the permittee.

15 6. A person is eligible to obtain an apprentice hunter  
16 permit pursuant to this section only two times. Subsequently,  
17 the person must meet the requirements of section 483A.27 in  
18 order to obtain a hunting license.

19 7. The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A  
20 to administer this section.

21 Sec. 10. Section 484B.10, subsection 3, Code 2015, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 3. A nonresident youth under sixteen years of age may hunt  
24 game birds on a licensed hunting preserve upon securing an  
25 annual hunting preserve license restricted to hunting preserves  
26 only for a license fee of five dollars and payment of the  
27 wildlife habitat fee. A nonresident youth is not required  
28 to complete the hunter ~~safety and ethics~~ education course to  
29 obtain a hunting preserve license pursuant to this subsection  
30 if the youth is accompanied by a person who is at least  
31 eighteen years of age, is qualified to hunt, and possesses a  
32 valid hunting license that includes the wildlife habitat fee.  
33 During the hunt, the accompanying adult must be within arm's  
34 reach of the nonresident youth.

35 Sec. 11. Section 805.8B, subsection 3, paragraph b, Code



1 2015, is amended to read as follows:

2     *b.* For violations of sections 481A.54, 481A.69, 481A.71,  
3 481A.72, 482.6, 483A.3, 483A.6, 483A.19, ~~and~~ 483A.27, and  
4 483A.27A, the scheduled fine is twenty dollars.

5

EXPLANATION

6

The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
7 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

8

9 This bill relates to hunter education license requirements,  
10 provides for an apprentice hunter permit and fee, and includes  
11 penalties.

12 The bill renames the "hunter safety and ethics education  
13 course" described in Code section 483A.27, whose completion is  
14 required to purchase a hunting license in this state, as the  
15 "hunter education course". Coordinating amendments are made to  
16 numerous other Code provisions that reference the course.

17 The bill also amends Code section 483A.27 to provide that the  
18 curriculum for the entire course, not just the first 10 hours,  
19 shall be based on the standards adopted by the international  
20 hunter education association - United States of America. The  
21 cost for a duplicate certificate of completion of the course is  
22 changed to the amount of the writing fee and administrative fee  
23 instead of specifying that the cost is \$3.

24 New Code section 483A.27A provides that, notwithstanding  
25 the requirements of Code section 483A.27, a resident aged 16  
26 years or older may purchase a hunting license without first  
27 completing the hunter education course if the person purchases  
28 an apprentice hunter permit for \$5 and meets other requirements  
29 of the new Code section.

30 New Code section 483A.27A provides that if an apprentice  
31 hunter is a minor, the person must be accompanied and aided  
32 while hunting by a mentor who is the person's parent or  
33 guardian or another competent adult consented to by the  
34 parent or guardian. If the apprentice hunter is not a minor,  
35 the person must be accompanied and aided while hunting by a  
36 competent adult mentor.

1 The mentor and the apprentice hunter must have valid hunting  
2 licenses that include the wildlife habitat fee and that are  
3 valid for the same seasons to hunt game. The mentor and  
4 the apprentice hunter must also have deer or turkey hunting  
5 licenses that are valid for the same seasons or zones if  
6 hunting for deer or turkey. A transportation tag issued to an  
7 apprentice hunter cannot be used to tag a deer taken by another  
8 person.

9 While hunting, an apprentice hunter must be under the direct  
10 supervision of the mentor. "Direct supervision" means that  
11 the mentor must maintain constant direction and control of  
12 the apprentice hunter and stay within a distance that enables  
13 the mentor to give uninterrupted, unaided visual and auditory  
14 communications to the apprentice. There must be one licensed  
15 mentor in direct supervision of each apprentice.

16 An apprentice hunter permit is valid from the date of issue  
17 to January 10 of the succeeding calendar year and shall contain  
18 a general description of the permittee.

19 A person is eligible to obtain only two apprentice hunter  
20 permits. After that, the person must meet the hunter education  
21 requirements of Code section 483A.27 to obtain a hunting  
22 license.

23 The commission is required to adopt rules to administer new  
24 Code section 483A.27A. A violation of the new provision is  
25 punishable with a scheduled fine of \$20.