

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 968 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY PIELLI, SANCHEZ, PROBST, KHAN, PICKETT, GIRAL, BRENNAN, GUENST, NEILSON, HILL-EVANS, DELLOSO, KUZMA, HADDOCK, CIRESI, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, DONAHUE, FREEMAN, GREEN, KRUPA, STEELE, KAZEEM AND KOZAK, MARCH 19, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAME AND FISHERIES, MARCH 19, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending Titles 30 (Fish) and 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in fishing licenses, providing for  
3 active duty military fishing reciprocity and for disabled  
4 veteran annual fishing license reciprocity; and, in hunting  
5 and furtaking licenses, providing for active duty military  
6 hunting reciprocity and for disabled veteran annual hunting  
7 license reciprocity.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Title 30 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
11 Statutes is amended by adding sections to read:

12 § 2702.2. Active duty military fishing reciprocity.

13 (a) Permission.--Notwithstanding section 2709(f) (relating  
14 to exemptions from license requirements), any person who  
15 possesses a valid and lawfully issued active duty military  
16 fishing license or permit which has been issued under the laws  
17 of another state, regardless of whether a reciprocity agreement  
18 exists between the Commonwealth and the state under subsection  
19 (b), may fish in any of the waters of this Commonwealth or in

1 any boundary waters if all of the following apply:

2 (1) The state provides a reciprocal privilege for a  
3 nonresident individual who is on active military duty in the  
4 armed forces of the United States.

5 (2) The Attorney General has determined that the fishing  
6 laws of the state are similar to the fishing laws of this  
7 Commonwealth.

8 (b) Reciprocity.--

9 (1) The Attorney General shall have the power and duty  
10 to enter into reciprocity agreements with other states  
11 providing for the mutual recognition of active duty military  
12 fishing within this Commonwealth and the similar allowance of  
13 fishing allowed by the other state. To carry out this duty,  
14 the Attorney General is authorized to negotiate reciprocity  
15 agreements and grant recognition of an active duty military  
16 fishing allowance or license issued by another state.

17 (2) The Attorney General shall report to the General  
18 Assembly within 180 days of the effective date of this  
19 paragraph and annually thereafter concerning the agreements  
20 which have been consummated under this subsection.

21 § 2702.3. Disabled veteran annual fishing license reciprocity.

22 (a) Permission.--Notwithstanding section 2709(f) (relating  
23 to exemptions from license requirements), any person who  
24 possesses a valid and lawfully issued disabled veteran annual  
25 fishing license or permit which has been issued under the laws  
26 of another state, regardless of whether a reciprocity agreement  
27 exists between the Commonwealth and the state under subsection  
28 (b), may fish in any of the waters of this Commonwealth or in  
29 any boundary waters if all of the following apply:

30 (1) The state provides a reciprocal privilege for

1 individuals possessing a disabled veteran annual fishing  
2 license issued under section 2707(a) (relating to disabled  
3 veterans and former prisoners of war).

4 (2) The Attorney General has determined that the fishing  
5 laws of the state are similar to the fishing laws of this  
6 Commonwealth.

7 (b) Reciprocity.--

8 (1) The Attorney General shall have the power and duty  
9 to enter into reciprocity agreements with other states  
10 providing for the mutual recognition of disabled veteran  
11 annual fishing licenses issued by the Commonwealth and a  
12 similar license or permit issued by the other state. To carry  
13 out this duty, the Attorney General is authorized to  
14 negotiate reciprocity agreements and grant recognition of a  
15 disabled veteran annual fishing license or permit issued by  
16 another state.

17 (2) The Attorney General shall report to the General  
18 Assembly within 180 days of the effective date of this  
19 paragraph and annually thereafter concerning the agreements  
20 which have been consummated under this subsection.

21 Section 2. Title 34 is amended by adding sections to read:

22 § 2703.1. Active duty military hunting reciprocity.

23 (a) Permission.--Notwithstanding section 2706(b) and (e)  
24 (relating to resident license and fee exemptions), any person  
25 who possesses a valid and lawfully issued active duty military  
26 hunting license or permit which has been issued under the laws  
27 of another state, regardless of whether a reciprocity agreement  
28 exists between the Commonwealth and the state under subsection  
29 (b), may hunt within this Commonwealth if all of the following  
30 apply:

1       (1) The state provides a reciprocal privilege for a  
2       nonresident individual who is on active military duty in the  
3       armed forces of the United States.

4       (2) The Attorney General has determined that the hunting  
5       laws of the state are similar to the hunting laws of this  
6       Commonwealth.

7       (b) Reciprocity.--

8       (1) The Attorney General shall have the power and duty  
9       to enter into reciprocity agreements with other states  
10       providing for the mutual recognition of active duty military  
11       hunting within this Commonwealth and the similar allowance of  
12       hunting allowed by the other state. To carry out this duty,  
13       the Attorney General is authorized to negotiate reciprocity  
14       agreements and grant recognition of an active duty military  
15       hunting allowance or license issued by another state.

16       (2) The Attorney General shall report to the General  
17       Assembly within 180 days of the effective date of this  
18       section and annually thereafter concerning the agreements  
19       which have been consummated under this subsection.

20       § 2703.2. Disabled veteran annual hunting license reciprocity.

21       (a) Permission.--Notwithstanding section 2706(b) and (e)  
22       (relating to resident license and fee exemptions), any person  
23       who possesses a valid and lawfully issued disabled veteran  
24       annual hunting license or permit which has been issued under the  
25       laws of another state, regardless of whether a reciprocity  
26       agreement exists between the Commonwealth and the state under  
27       subsection (b), may hunt in this Commonwealth if all of the  
28       following apply:

29       (1) The state provides a reciprocal privilege for  
30       individuals possessing a disabled veteran annual hunting

1 license issued under section 2706(b).

2 (2) The Attorney General has determined that the hunting  
3 laws of the state are similar to the hunting laws of this  
4 Commonwealth.

5 (b) Reciprocity.--

6 (1) The Attorney General shall have the power and duty  
7 to enter into reciprocity agreements with other states  
8 providing for the mutual recognition of disabled veteran  
9 annual hunting licenses issued by the Commonwealth and a  
10 similar license or permit issued by the other state. To carry  
11 out this duty, the Attorney General is authorized to  
12 negotiate reciprocity agreements and grant recognition of a  
13 disabled veteran annual hunting license or permit issued by  
14 another state.

15 (2) The Attorney General shall report to the General  
16 Assembly within 180 days of the effective date of this  
17 paragraph and annually thereafter concerning the agreements  
18 which have been consummated under this subsection.

19 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.