

SENATE BILL No. 817

February 24, 2016, Introduced by Senators COLBECK, KOWALL, BIEDA, ZORN and PROOS and referred to the Committee on Veterans, Military Affairs and Homeland Security.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," by amending section 43537 (MCL 324.43537), as amended by 2013 PA 108.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 43537. (1) ~~Until March 1, 2014, a resident who is~~
 2 ~~declared legally blind is eligible to purchase a senior restricted~~
 3 ~~or senior all-species fishing license. Beginning March 1, 2014, a~~ **A**
 4 resident who is declared legally blind is eligible to purchase a
 5 senior all-species fishing license.

6 (2) A disabled veteran is eligible to obtain any resident
 7 license under this part for which a lottery is not required free of
 8 charge.

9 **(3) A VETERAN OR AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE MILITARY MAY OBTAIN**
 10 **AN ALL-SPECIES FISHING LICENSE FREE OF CHARGE.**

1 (4) ~~(3)~~—The department may demand proof of eligibility under
 2 subsection (1), (2), (3), or ~~(4)~~—(5). The licensee, when taking
 3 aquatic species or hunting, shall possess proof of his or her
 4 eligibility under subsection (1), (2), (3), or ~~(4)~~—(5), as
 5 applicable, and shall furnish the proof upon the request of a peace
 6 officer.

7 (5) ~~(4)~~—The department shall process licenses issued under
 8 this section in the same manner as licenses issued to senior
 9 citizens for purposes of receiving appropriations from the
 10 legislature under section 43546.

11 (6) ~~(5)~~—As used in this section: ~~,"disabled~~

12 (A) **"ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE MILITARY" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL**
 13 **REGULARLY ENLISTED OR COMMISSIONED AS AN OFFICER IN THE ARMED**
 14 **FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES.**

15 (B) **"DISABLED veteran"** means either of the following:

16 (i) ~~(a)~~—A resident who has been determined by the United
 17 States ~~department~~ **DEPARTMENT** of ~~veterans affairs~~ **VETERANS AFFAIRS**
 18 to be permanently and totally disabled as a result of military
 19 service and entitled to veterans' benefits at the 100% rate, for a
 20 disability other than blindness.

21 (ii) ~~(b)~~—A resident rated by the United States ~~department~~
 22 **DEPARTMENT** of ~~veterans affairs~~ **VETERANS AFFAIRS** as individually
 23 unemployable.

24 (C) **"VETERAN" MEANS AN HONORABLY DISCHARGED MEMBER OF THE**
 25 **ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES.**