

2001 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

(April 12, 2001)

Names in parentheses indicate sponsor and cosponsor. To leave messages for legislators dial toll-free 1-888-635-3447 or 328-3373 in the Bismarck-Mandan area. Bill information can be accessed at the Legislative Council's web page at www.discovernd.com/lr.

House of Representatives

The House Natural Resources Committee (HNRC) meets Thursdays and Fridays in the Pioneer Room. Members: Earl Rennerfeldt, Chairman; Jon O. Nelson, Vice Chairman; Curtis E. Brekke, Duane DeKrey, David Drovdal, Pat Galvin, Lyle Hanson, George Keiser, Scot Kelsh, Frank Klein, Darrell D. Nottestad, Todd Porter, Dorvan Solberg, Dave Weiler, Lonny Winrich.

Senate

The Senate Natural Resources Committee (SNRC) meets Thursdays and Fridays in the Ft. Lincoln Room. Members: Thomas Fischer, Chairman; Ben Tollefson, Vice Chairman; Randel Christmann, Michael A. Every, Layton Freborg, Jerome Kelsh, John T. Traynor.

Active Bills

HB 1019 - (Introduced by appropriations committee at the request of the governor) - Appropriates \$35,319,641 for the game and fish department for the biennium beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2003. Passed house and senate.

HB 1468 - (Introduced by Reps. Carlson, Herbel, Porter, Rennerfeldt; Sens. Fischer, Traynor) - Both nonresident hunting and fishing license fees are increased and the hunting license structure is changed. A nonresident small game license would be good for a period of 14 consecutive days or any two periods of seven consecutive days. The small game license would not be required to hunt waterfowl, and a nonresident may purchase more than one small game license per year. The cost of the hunting license package for nonresidents who hunt both upland game and waterfowl would change from the current \$95 to \$130. The fees for nonresidents who hunt only waterfowl will remain at the current level of \$95. The fees for nonresidents who hunt upland game but not waterfowl will also be \$95. These new hunting fees would apply to the 2001 hunting seasons. Other nonresident fee increases would be from \$25 to \$32 for season fishing; from \$15 to \$20 for seven-day fishing; from \$35 to \$45 for husband and wife fishing; and from \$10 to \$15 for three-day fishing. Fishing license fee changes would become effective April 1, 2002. Passed house 69-29. SNRC amended to eliminate the 14 day nonresident small game license. Passed senate 27-21. Returned to house. Conference committee appointed.

Signed Bills

HB 1070 - (Introduced by natural resources committee at the request of the game and fish department) - Issues a complimentary lifetime resident "combination" license to 30 year hunter education instructors. Signed by governor.

HB 1238 - (Introduced by Reps. Nottestad, Brekke, Carlson; Sen. Espgaard) * Prohibits county auditors from providing fishing licenses to license agents located out-of-state, but allows the director to provide licenses to out-of-state agents if there are no in-state agents within a reasonable distance selling nonresidents licenses. The county auditor and the board of county commissioners are required to execute a written agreement to provide for the disposition of compensation for the issuance of licenses. Signed by governor.

HB 1356 - (Introduced by Reps. Wrangham, DeKrey, Hanson; Sens. Christmann, Freborg) - Requires the governor to provide by proclamation for spearfishing through the ice from dark houses, allowing nonresidents to spearfish from dark houses in North Dakota only if their state of residency allows North Dakotans to spearfish from dark houses. Signed by governor.

SB 2051 - (Sens. Wardner, Lyson; Reps. Clark, Drovdal) - Requires motorboat licensing applicants, in whose name the motorboat has not previously been licensed, to provide proof of payment of sales or use tax that was due upon acquisition, or provide evidence of exemption from sales or use taxes. To establish that the motorboat was acquired through a casual sale and qualifies for exempt status, the applicant must present a receipt for the sale signed by the seller and showing the seller's name and address. Signed by governor.

SB 2178 - (Introduced by Sens. Lyson, O'Connell, Stenehjem; Reps. Carlisle, Drovdal, Rennerfeldt) - Allows North Dakota to enter the interstate wildlife violator compact. Violators who have their hunting or fishing privileges suspended in a compact state will have their privileges suspended in all compact states. Signed by governor.