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**INTRODUCED BY SENIOR ASSEMBLY MEMBER PEREIRA**

(COAUTHOR: SENIOR SENATOR LEPEILBET)

Legislative Counsel’s Digest

AP 7: HUNTING AND SPORT FISHING: LICENSING FEES.

UNDER EXISTING LAW, A PERSON WHO TAKES A BIRD OR MAMMAL IS REQUIRED TO FIRST PROCURE A HUNTING LICENSE. EXISTING LAW REQUIRES THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE TO ISSUE A HUNTING LICENSE TO A RESIDENT OF CALIFORNIA 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER UPON THE PAYMENT OF A SPECIFIED FEE. EXISTING LAW REQUIRES A PERSON 16 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER WHO TAKES A FISH TO FIRST OBTAIN A SPORT FISHING LICENSE. EXISTING LAW REQUIRES THE DEPARTMENT TO ISSUE A SPORT FISHING LICENSE TO A RESIDENT OF CALIFORNIA 16 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER UPON THE PAYMENT OF A SPECIFIED FEE.

THIS MEASURE WOULD MEMORIALIZE THE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD EXEMPT RESIDENTS 68 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER FROM HUNTING AND SPORT FISHING LICENSING FEES.

VOTE: MAJORITY.

AP 7: RELATING TO HUNTING AND SPORT FISHING LICENSING FEES

WHEREAS, SECTION 70 OF THE FISH AND GAME CODE DEFINES “RESIDENT” AS ANY PERSON WHO HAS RESIDED CONTINUOUSLY IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR SIX MONTHS OR MORE IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE DATE OF HIS APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE OR PERMIT, ANY PERSON ON ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY WITH THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OR AUXILIARY BRANCH THEREOF, OR ANY PERSON ENROLLED IN THE JOB CORPS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 2883 OF TITLE 29 OF THE UNITED STATES CODE; AND

WHEREAS, SECTION 86 OF THE FISH AND GAME CODE DEFINES “TAKE” AS HUNT, PURSUE, CATCH, CAPTURE, OR KILL, OR ATTEMPT TO HUNT, PURSUE, CATCH, CAPTURE, OR KILL; AND

WHEREAS, TO TAKE FISH FROM INLAND OR OCEAN WATERS, THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE CURRENTLY REQUIRES A PERSON OVER THE AGE OF 16 TO PURCHASE AN ANNUAL SPORT FISHING LICENSE FOR A FEE OF $47.01; AND

WHEREAS, TO TAKE BIRDS AND MAMMALS, THE DEPARTMENT CURRENTLY REQUIRES A PERSON OVER THE AGE OF 18 TO PURCHASE AN ANNUAL HUNTING LICENSE FOR A FEE OF $47.01; AND

WHEREAS, A LICENSE ISSUED FROM A LICENSE AGENT INCLUDES A 5 PERCENT NONREFUNDABLE LICENSE AGENT HANDLING FEE; AND

WHEREAS, AN ADDITIONAL VALIDATION FEE IS REQUIRED FOR ANY PERSON TAKING WATERFOWL; AND

WHEREAS, THE CURRENT HUNT DATES FOR ANTELOPE TAG ARE RESTRICTED TO AUGUST 1, 2015, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 20, 2015, AND THE DEPARTMENT CURRENTLY REQUIRES A RESIDENT WHO WISHES TO PARTICIPATE IN ANTELOPE TAG TO PAY AN APPLICATION FEE AND AN ADDITIONAL TAG FEE; AND

WHEREAS, THE DEPARTMENT CURRENTLY OFFERS ONLY TWO FREE FISHING DAYS PER YEAR; AND

WHEREAS, EVERYDAY, MORE AND MORE RESIDENTS OF CALIFORNIA ARE BECOMING SENIOR CITIZENS OVER THE AGE OF 65; AND

WHEREAS, THE POPULATION OF RESIDENTS OF CALIFORNIA OVER THE AGE OF 60 IS 7,191,124; AND

WHEREAS, THE POPULATION OF RESIDENTS OF CALIFORNIA OVER THE AGE OF 75 IS 2,118,990; AND

WHEREAS, UNDER THE 2015 FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES, THE POVERTY GUIDELINE FOR A ONE-PERSON HOUSEHOLD IS AN ANNUAL INCOME OF $11,770; AND

WHEREAS, THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS GENERATED IN COMMUNITIES BY ADDITIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING BY RESIDENTS OVER THE AGE OF 68 WILL INCREASE LOCAL REVENUE AND THE LOCAL TAX BASE; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, BY THE SENIOR ASSEMBLY AND THE SENIOR SENATE, JOINTLY, THAT THE SENIOR LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AT ITS 2015 REGULAR SESSION, A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS VOTING THEREFOR, HEREBY PROPOSES THAT RESIDENTS OVER THE AGE OF 68 BE EXEMPT FROM HUNTING AND SPORT FISHING LICENSING FEES; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT THE SENIOR LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA RESPECTFULLY MEMORIALIZES THE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO ENACT APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION THAT WOULD ADDRESS THE CONCERNS SET FORTH IN THIS MEASURE; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT A COPY OF THIS MEASURE BE TRANSMITTED TO THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE, AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.