

SENATE BILL No. 1393

June 16, 2010, Introduced by Senators PATTERSON, PRUSI, KUIPERS, RICHARDVILLE, BIRKHOLZ, JANSEN, PAPPAGEORGE and HARDIMAN and referred to the Committee on Hunting, Fishing and Outdoor Recreation.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," by amending section 43537 (MCL 324.43537), as amended by 2007 PA 60.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 43537. (1) A resident who is declared legally blind is
2 eligible to purchase a senior restricted or senior all-species
3 fishing license. The department may demand proof of blindness. The
4 licensee, when fishing, shall possess proof of blindness and shall
5 furnish the proof upon the request of a peace officer.

6 (2) A disabled veteran is eligible to purchase any senior
7 hunting license described in section 43535 or any senior fishing
8 license described in section 43536, or both.

9 (3) As a pilot project for 2007, there shall be a disabled

1 veterans firearm deer season in at least 3 areas of this state,
2 including Marquette county and deer management units 053 and 064.
3 The disabled veterans firearm deer season shall correspond with the
4 youth firearm deer hunting days, if any, established by order of
5 the commission. A disabled veteran may take 1 deer during the
6 disabled veterans firearm deer season. A disabled veteran taking
7 deer during this season shall possess a current firearm deer
8 license, combination deer license, or antlerless deer license or a
9 deer management assistance permit authorizing the disabled veteran
10 to take a deer with a firearm and issued for the area or land upon
11 which the veteran is hunting. The same kind of deer may be taken
12 during the disabled veterans firearm deer season as during the
13 regular November firearm deer season. This subsection does not
14 limit the authority of the commission under section 40113a to
15 establish a special hunting season in any area of this state for
16 veterans with disabilities or other classes of individuals.

17 **(4) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A SPECIAL MILITARY DEER**
18 **HUNTING PROGRAM. THE PROGRAM SHALL ATTEMPT TO MATCH HOLDERS OF DEER**
19 **MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PERMITS WITH QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS INTERESTED**
20 **IN TAKING DEER UPON THEIR RETURN FROM ACTIVE DUTY.**

21 (5) ~~(4)~~—The department may demand proof of eligibility under
22 subsection (2), ~~or~~ (3), **OR (4)**. The licensee, when hunting or
23 taking aquatic species, as applicable, shall possess proof of his
24 or her eligibility under subsection (2), ~~or~~ (3), **OR (4)** and shall
25 furnish the proof upon the request of a peace officer.

26 (6) ~~(5)~~—The department shall process licenses issued under
27 subsection (2) in the same manner as licenses issued to senior

1 citizens for purposes of receiving appropriations from the
2 legislature under section 43546.

3 (7) ~~(6)~~—As used in this section: ~~,"disabled~~

4 (A) **"DISABLED veteran"** means either of the following:

5 (i) ~~(a)~~—A resident who has been determined by the United States
6 department of veterans affairs to be permanently and totally
7 disabled as a result of military service and entitled to veterans'
8 benefits at the 100% rate, for a disability other than blindness.

9 (ii) ~~(b)~~—A resident rated by the United States department of
10 veterans affairs as individually unemployable.

11 (B) **"QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL" MEANS A RESIDENT THAT IS A MEMBER**
12 **OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES OR NATIONAL GUARD AND THAT WAS ON**
13 **ACTIVE DUTY OUTSIDE THIS STATE DURING THE REGULAR NOVEMBER FIREARM**
14 **DEER SEASON.**