

H E A R I N G  
M I N U T E S -- 57th Session

215

**Assembly**

ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC RESOURCES AND FISH AND GAME COMMITTEE--Room 214

March 21, 1973

Members Present: Chairman Bremner                      Broadbent  
                    Vice-Chairman Crawford          Jacobsen  
                    Ford                                      Lowman  
                    Gojack                                   Smalley

Members Absent: Banner

Guests Present: Fred Wright                      Fish and Game Department  
                    Bill Parsons                      Fish and Game Department  
                    Glenn Griffith                  Fish and Game Department

Chairman Bremner called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. He announced that the purpose of today's hearing is to hear testimony on A.B. 463, A.B. 516, and A.B. 419.

A.B. 463 \*

Mr. Fred Wright, representing the Department of Fish and Game, spoke first on A.B. 463, which:

Adjusts fees of hunting and fishing licenses, tags, and permits.

Mr. Wright mentioned that the main reasons for these changes in this bill is to clean up some of the problems in the Department, and to generate more income for the department.

On line 7 of page 1, the purpose of this change is to allow the Junior, who would only like to fish, to be able to get a separate fishing license, and the one who wants to hunt, to get the hunting license and take the hunting training. As it was before, the Junior had to pay \$2.00 for a combination fish and hunt license, and also take the required hunting training, whether he had a notion to hunt or not. Now, they pay a dollar for either one.

Mr. Bill Parsons, also from the Department of Fish and Game, spoke about the change on line 14, of page 1, deleting "any alien or to". During the last session of the Legislature, the resident alien was included under the resident privileges but was limited to those over the age of 16. There was no provision taking care of the child of 16, and he still had to stand in line for the non-resident privileges. So this change is primarily a clarification to allow the resident alien of 16 to have the resident privileges as far as the hunting and fishing licenses go.

QUESTIONS:

Mr. Lowman asked how long it takes an alien to become a United States Citizen, and the answer was three years. Mr. Lowman thought

\* See ex. I

## Assembly

they should keep the restriction on the alien, until he becomes a citizen, but Chairman Bremner argued that even though they might not be citizens yet, they still have to pay for a place to live, and pay taxes, so thinks they can have these privileges of hunting and fishing with a regular license.

Chairman Bremner then proposed that on page 1, line 4 after "To any citizen of the United States" add "or any resident alien."

Mr. Lowman motioned that they leave it alone. Mr. Jacobsen said that he agreed with Mr. Lowman and thought they should not have these privileges.

Mr. Wright explained that the other changes in the bill on page 2 helps to generate more income for the Department, and reasons for needing more income is that their vehicles do not get as much gas mileage as they used to and more paper work that also costs money, and such. If they pass some of the payroll bills that are in during this session, it would cost the Department about another \$150,000. If this bill goes through and becomes law, the additional income that is generated from this bill will go in the bank next year and will not be available until 1975. This additional income is estimated at 140,000 dollars, but will still have to retrench even if this bill goes through.

Mr. Wright discussed about line 20 and 21, on page 1, and said that on line 21, the commission would rather have \$14.00 instead of \$15.00 there. This would save a dollar on the combination license.

### QUESTIONS:

Chairman Bremner asked Mr. Wright how many combination licenses they have sold, and he answered about 15,000. He commented that more people, if they know they could save a dollar for hunting and fishing, would be more apt to buy the combination license.

Mr. Lowman asked if they really thought that this \$1.00 less made that much difference and he did not think so.

Dr. Broadbent commented that this cost is very minor and a lot less than two tanks of gas, and figured the cost was just right.

Mr. Wright went on explaining the changes on this bill, and discussed the non-resident license. In order to give the non-resident one license to hunt everything, they would propose to delete the \$25.00 fee for hunting Upland Game for \$35.00, in conjunction with the increase of the deer tag non-resident license from \$30.00 to \$50.00.

### QUESTIONS:

Chairman Bremner asked if most non-resident hunters are deer hunters, and Mr. Wright answered that they are.

Mr. Jacobsen asked if Mr. Wright could give the committee a run-down on what other surrounding states charge for non-residents, and the members were referred to Exhibit 2 on the March 14th minutes, which lists these charges. Mr. Wright read off from a 1970 chart,

which listed what the other states charged for non-residents hunting deer and Nevada was the highest charging \$80.00, while the others were in the 50's on the average.

Mr. Smalley asked what their quota was on deer tags, and asked if they sold their quota. Mr. Wright answered that their quota was 4,000, and they sold 4,006, and the 6 were duplicates. Mr. Wright listed other sales of licenses they sold:

Combination licenses	14,694
Resident hunting licenses	31,615
Those having opportunity to hunt	46,000
Resident fishing licenses	31,000
Non-resident sales (hunting)	4,000
Non-resident fishing ( and the 5-day)	30,600

Mr. Wright then brought up the subject of the special nonresident 3-day, migratory waterfowl hunting license on page 2, line 26 of the bill. They have sold 680 thus far. Under this bill, now, they would have to pay \$35.00 instead of \$10.00. By doing this it will all be under one license instead of three.

Mr. Parsons went into the subject of Section 2, paragraph 3. This is to allow the commission to determine tags that would be necessary for other species under NRS 502.130, and this should not exceed the amount of \$2.00. An example would be a tag for the Mountain Lion.

Mr. Wright then suggested a section 4, following paragraph 3 of section 2 saying: "A fee of \$1 may be charged for processing and application for special seasons." And then they would bill the hunters instead of them sending in their money, and if they do not get anything then the commission would have to send their money back.

Dr. Broadbent commented that everyone else just holds the money back in their offices and paid back the ones who need to be paid back, like the commission used to do. After further comments and discussion, the committee talked about the nonresidents, who come in and abuse this state, because they feel this is not their state, so why should they take care of it. Mr. Wright explained that the reason for having the nonresidents come in, is because 85% of this state belongs to the Federal Government, and Mr. Jacobsen continued that they receive "jaundice eyes" from the federal government if they do not allow non-residents to hunt in Nevada.

But, it was further stated, that nonresidents are not allowed to hunt antelopes and elk and a few other species.

Mr. Glenn Griffith, from the Fish and Game Department wanted to comment that the Land Law Review Report criticized several states severely, and Nevada won because of its discrimination. Discriminatory fees, and non-fees, and attitude to the nonresidents.

A.B. 516

The bill provides additional regulation and different compensation

method for fish and game license agents.

Mr. Wright first talked about the suspension of agents for failure in abiding by the rules and regulations, and also the suspended agent may appeal to the commission for reinstatement. He said that 90% of those suspended come for reinstatement.

QUESTIONS:

Mr. Lowman asked why they needed this strengthening in the law, and Mr. Parsons answered that they felt it was a need to display to the agents in the statutes that their licenses could be suspended under certain conditions.

Mr. Jacobsen asked how they allocated these agents; by areas, or by request. Mr. Wright said that they generally go by request, then they have their field people personally investigate and talk to the agent.

Mr. Wright said that the primary purpose of this bill is shown on the second page where they added in that the agent get 25¢ for a license and 10¢ for stamp sales, in addition to collecting the required fee. The commission feels that the agents are doing a very good job and they feel that these agents should acquire a little more money. Mr. Wright mentioned that these agents are generally at marinas, liquor stores, and sporting goods stores.

Mr. Jacobsen asked if their field agents check on the license agents every now and then, and Mr. Parsons answered that they do and they also bring up the agents on latest things and procedures.

A.B. 419

This bill provides for instructional courses in firearm safety at request of county residents.

Chairman Bremner said that he talked to Mr. Getto, and Mr. Dini (the introducers of this bill) about the reasons for submitting this bill and they felt it was difficult for people in the outlying areas receiving this course. This course is required for those of age 16 to get a hunting license.

Mr. Griffith explained about this bill. The course requires 8 hours of formal instruction. Is not just hunter safety, it is of conservation and hunter ethics, and what it is trying to produce is a more responsible outdoorsman. Instructors are volunteers, rendering their services to teach this course. They cannot be paid, because the state could not afford it.

Mr. Griffith explained that he would like to talk to Mr. Getto and Mr. Dini about this bill to find out their purposes of bringing out this bill, and Chairman Bremner said that they had other hearings to attend to at this time.

QUESTIONS:

Mr. Smalley asked how much can the instructor charge for teaching this course. Mr. Griffith answered that they are trying to get it so

they can have a dollar for each course, but some of the instructors would rather do it for free and will not accept that money.

Chairman Bremner asked Mr. Griffith what kind of people volunteer for this, and he answered that there are teachers, lawyers, engineers sportsmen, and a medical doctor.

Mrs. Ford asked what "all eligible persons" meant on line 5 of page one of the bill. She wondered if it meant just anyone who wants th course.. Mr. Griffith said that it means just that, anyone who wants it, but they do have a set age limit at 11 years old, and upper limit is 17 years of age. He did mention that each class usually has at least two adults in it to see what is happening.

Chairman Bremner asked what it costs the department to set up these courses. Mr. Griffith said they they persuaded Remington to provide most of the materials. But what happened was they set up a standardized program in conjunction with the other western states so that a youngster will meet their requirements in case they go to California, or any other states. But this standardized program became a disadvantage, because the other western states wanted the same type of program, and Remington said that they cannot do it to the other states also, so they now have to pay for it.

The committee discussed about putting this into requirements in the public schools, but was denounced.

Mr. Griffith commented that in Pershing county, they have what is called mini-courses that meets 2 times a week, for 6 weeks, that is set up in this type of course of survival and such. He said that it is in great demand.

Mrs. Ford figured we should hold this bill until they could talk to Mr. Getto and Mr. Dini about it. The Chairman agreed with Mrs. Ford.

Back to A.B. 463, Chairman Bremner asked about the 20-year residency of the senior citizens.

Mr. Wright listed off the different changes throughout the last few years:

1964--60 years of age and 10 years.	No fee.
1965--60 years of age and 10 years.	\$1.00 fee.
1969--65 years of age and 20 years.	\$2.00 fee.
1971--65 years of age and 20 years.	\$1.00 to fish and \$1.00 to hunt.

Mr. Wright said that this thing is brought out every session, and this time they are just going to sit back and administer anything that the committee gives them.

Dr. Broadbent said that if this is changed to a shorter residency, then the senior citizens who have lived here for so many years to obtain a license will not like it if others come from another state and only stay 30 days or 6 months or what and get a license so much sooner. Also, he felt that this is a lenient residency requirement in comparison

with other states, and should leave it that way. Mr. Jacobsen quite agreed with Dr. Broadbent.

Chairman Bremner then called a five-minute break. They reconvened at 9:45 a.m.

A.B. 516

Mr. Lowman moved a "do pass" on this bill, and Mrs. Ford seconded. Unanimously concurred.

A.B. 463

Mr. Lowman moved for a "do pass as amended" and amended to be additional section reading:

A fee of \$2.00 may be charged for processing and application for special seasons.

Mrs. Ford seconded Mr. Lowman's motion. All committee members agreed except Chairman Bremner.

A.B. 419

Chairman Bremner said they would hold this bill until explanation from Mr. Getto and Mr. Dini. But no special meetings will be held for this purpose.

Mrs. Lowman asked that there be additional copies of all hearing sheets put on the desks of the committee members, along with those in the minutes books.

Mr. Wright had given the committee members a table of "Big Game Harvest and Angler Use Days by County by Percent of Total" (This table is attached to the minutes as Exhibit I) Also letter from the Fish and Game Department on A.B. 460. (Attached as Exhibit 2.)

Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m. until Friday, March 23rd for a hearing in room 131 at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Geanie Armstrong*

Geanie Armstrong  
Assembly Attache

ASSEMBLY

H E A R I N G

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC RESOURCES

Date MARCH 21, 1973 Time 8 a.m. Room 214

Bill or Resolution  
to be considered

Subject

A.B. 463

Adjusts fees of hunting and fishing licenses, tags, and permits.

A.B. 516

Provides additional regulation and different compensation method for fish and game license agents.

A.B. 419

Provides for instructional courses in firearm safety at request of county residents.

March 18, 1973

1971

*Exhibit I*

## BIG GAME HARVEST AND ANGLER USE DAYS BY COUNTY BY PERCENT OF TOTAL \*

	<u>Deer</u>	<u>Antelope</u>	<u>Bighorn</u>	<u>Elk</u>	<u>Angler Use Days</u>
Carson	tr				.09
Churchill	tr				8.3
Clark	tr		83	100	38.9
Douglas	.01				4.9
Elko	.63	.13			11.6
Esmeralda	tr				.02
Eureka	.06				.02
Humboldt	.03	.29			1.3
Lander	.02				1.3
Lincoln	.03	.04	17		1.6
Lyon	tr				3.2
Mineral	tr	.01			3.3
Nye	.01	.02			1.1
Pershing	tr				1.0
Storey	tr				.04
Washoe	.03	.44			17.5
White Pine	.16	.07			3.9

\*Note: Source - Tag returns - Game Division Harvest Report  
July 1972 and Fisheries Division Statewide Angler  
Questionnaire July 1972.

1st	El.	Wa.	Clk.	Clk.	Clk.
2nd	W.P	Hu.	Lin.		Wa.
3rd	Eu.	El.			El.
4th	Hu/Lin/Wa	W.P			Ch.
5th	La.	Lin.			Dg.
6th	Dg/Ny	Ny.			W.P



March 18, 1973

SMALL GAME - WATERFOWL

Average harvest for years 1966-1970 by species by county of harvest by percent of total, with average total harvest and order of rank for first six counties.\*

	S.G.	Ch.	Quail	Ph.	Rab.	Dove	Ducks	Drk. Geese	White Geese
Carson		.2	1.2	.1	1.0	.7	.5	1.5	-
Churchill	.7	2.6	4.5	21.9	3.4	9.0	47.4	34.0	60.9
Clark	.0	.1	36.4	9.2	23.8	24.1	5.3	10.2	1.6
Douglas	.2	.3	2.1	2.2	1.5	2.1	3.9	9.0	1.4
Elko	4.2	25.9	1.1	1.2	18.3	2.8	3.8	2.3	.4
Esmeralda	.0	1.1	.1	.0	.6	1.3	.2	-	.2
Eureka	6.2	5.9	.0	.2	2.2	1.3	.5	.6	-
Humboldt	13.8	13.9	9.1	8.2	2.5	2.4	1.2	.8	-
Lander	6.0	7.8	.5	2.9	1.6	1.2	.9	.3	-
Lincoln	.1	.0	11.3	4.7	13.0	4.8	3.8	2.1	.5
Lyon	.8	2.2	8.7	24.0	3.7	13.6	10.0	14.2	8.6
Mineral	.9	1.3	.4	.3	.4	2.1	2.2	4.9	22.2
Nye	1.4	2.1	3.8	.1	5.2	13.6	5.0	.3	1.6
Pershing	1.2	13.7	5.6	22.1	3.2	2.3	8.9	7.2	.7
Storey	-	.5	.3	2.4	.2	.4	.1	-	-
Washoe	21.0	21.4	14.1	.1	11.2	13.9	4.3	12.3	1.9
White Pine	5.9	.8	.6	.2	8.1	4.4	2.0	.2	-
Avg. Harvest	<u>14,446</u>	<u>88,250</u>	<u>98,276</u>	<u>6,940</u>	<u>46,711</u>	<u>132,718</u>	<u>130,340</u>	<u>6,175</u>	<u>2,498</u>

1st	Wa.	El.	Clk.	Ly.	Clk.	Clk.	Ch.	Ch.	Ch.
2nd	Hu.	Wa.	Wa.	Per.	El.	Wa.	Ly.	Ly.	Mn.
3rd	Eu.	Hu.	Li.	Ch.	Li.	Ny.	Per.	Wa.	Ly.
4th	La.	Per.	Hu.	Clk.	Wa.	Ly.	Clk.	Clk.	Wa.
5th	W.P	La.	Ly.	Hu.	W.P	Ch.	Ny.	Dg.	Ny.
6th	El.	Eu.	Per.	Li.	Ny.	Li.	Wa.	Per.	Clk.

\* Source of data: Game Division Harvest Statistics July 1972.

The number of times a county appears in the top 6 places for the 13 species of game covered.

Washoe (10) Clark (9) Lincoln (7) Humboldt, Lyon, Nye (6) Churchill, Elko, Pershing (5) White Pine (4) Lander (3) Douglas, Eureka (2) Mineral (1) Carson City, Esmeralda, Storey (0)

Exhibit 2

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March 20, 1973

TO Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Resources  
FROM Nevada Department of Fish and Game  
SUBJECT Comments on Assembly Bill No. 460 - Requires license or permit to hunt or trap all species of wildlife.

Amendment of the statutes cited in A.B. 460 would require any ~~resident of Nevada~~ 12 years of age or older to obtain a license to hunt any of the wild birds or animals and would require such persons 16 years of age or older to obtain a license to trap any of the wild animals. Presently, licenses are required to hunt or to trap only game species and fur-bearing animals. The licensing provisions would not apply (Ref.: 502.010 NRS) to the protection of persons or property from unprotected wild birds or animals on or in the immediate vicinity of home or ranch premises.

Approval of A.B. 460 would authorize the State Board of Fish and Game Commissioners to promulgate rules relating to the manner and means of hunting any wildlife rather than being limited to game species. This could alleviate the problem of night hunting in the eastern part of the State where nonresident hunters and others have been taking a toll of protected wildlife when in the pursuit of coyotes or other unprotected species. It could also partially control the practice of hunters attempting to take mountain lion without the proper license or tag; then when checked, to tell the warden that they were hunting bobcat or other unprotected wildlife.

The Commission could also promulgate rules regarding the manner and means of trapping all species of wildlife rather than being limited to fur-bearing animals. Since trapping is often non-selective, specifying trapping methods could alleviate or eliminate the problem that arose this year when

several hundred eagles and other birds of prey were accidentally taken by bobcat trappers using sets baited with jackrabbit. Regulating the bait used would have resulted in more effective trap-days for bobcats as well as providing protection for the eagles.

With the adoption of A.B. 460, a person could still carry a rifle without being subject to the licensing requirement; there wouldn't be any restriction on "plinking" or target practicing. Neither would it result in harassment of the hunter or trapper - the practice of requiring a license to fish for any kind of fish has been accepted by the sportsmen since the inception of the Commission. If there is any attempt at harassment by an individual officer, immediate remedial action will be taken when the facts are known.

In conclusion, the greatest impact of this bill would probably be on the out-of-state hunter; however, his purchase of a license to hunt would contribute to the over-all management and protection needs for the wildlife of the State.

BILL NO.: A.B. 463 DATE: March 2, 1973  
SPONSOR: Committee on Environment & Public Resources  
SUBJECT: Adjusts fees of hunting and fishing licenses, tags, and permits.

COMMITTEE ACTION DATE: March 21, 1973  
AMENDMENT: YES X NO  
AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY: Fish and Game Department  
SECONDED BY:

COMMITTEE VOTE	YES	NO	EXCUSED	ABSENT	NO VOTE
BREMNER		X			
FORD	X				
GOJACK	X				
BANNER				X	
BROADBENT	X				
CRAWFORD	X				
JACOBSEN	X				
LOWMAN	X				
SMALLEY	X				

DISPOSITION: DATE: March 21, 1973

DO PASS: Motion: Mr. Lowman  
DO PASS AS AMENDED: X Second: Mrs. Ford  
INDEFINITELY POSTPONED:

NOTES: Amendments as follows:

- 1) Page 1, line 4 after "To any citizen of the United States" add "or any resident alien"
- 2) Page 1, line 21, change \$15.00 to \$14.00
- 3) Add a paragraph 4 to Section 2, on page 3 as follows:
  4. A fee of \$2 maybe charged for processing and application for special seasons (hunting).

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC RESOURCES & FISH AND GAME COMMITTEE  
57th Session

BILL NO.: A.B. 516 DATE: March 7, 1973  
SPONSOR: Committee of Environment & Public Resources  
SUBJECT: Provides additional regulation and different compensation method for fish and game license agents.

COMMITTEE ACTION DATE: March 21, 1973  
AMENDMENT: YES \_\_\_\_\_  
AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY: NO X  
SECONDED BY:

COMMITTEE VOTE	YES	NO	EXCUSED	ABSENT	NO VOTE
BREMNER	X				
FORD	X				
GOJACK	X				
BANNER				X	
BROADBENT	X				
CRAWFORD	X				
JACOBSEN	X				
LOWMAN	X				
SMALLEY	X				

DISPOSITION: DATE: March 21, 1973

DO PASS: X Motion: Mr. Lowman  
DO PASS AS AMENDED: \_\_\_\_\_ Second: Mrs. Ford  
INDEFINITELY POSTPONED: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES: