

SENATE, No. 1777

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 14, 1997

By Senator CARDINALE

1 AN ACT concerning gun, bow and arrow, and trapping safety and
2 proficiency training for hunters and trappers, and amending
3 P.L.1954, c.57, P.L.1957, c.195, and P.L.1977, c.320.

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5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

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8 1. Section 1 of P.L.1954, c.57 (C.23:3-4.2) is amended to read as
9 follows:

10 1. Notwithstanding any provisions contained in [sections]
11 R.S.23:3-1 to 23:3-22 [of the Revised Statutes,] concerning the
12 issuance of resident or nonresident hunting licenses, at the time an
13 application for license is made by an applicant above the age of 10, to
14 whom a license has not previously been issued, [such] the applicant
15 shall present to the issuing agent a certificate stating that the applicant
16 has satisfactorily completed a course in gun safety, which shall be
17 signed by an agent of the Division of Fish, Game and [Shell Fisheries]
18 Wildlife designated for the purpose whose fitness to give instructions
19 in safe gun handling has been determined by the Division of Fish,
20 Game and [Shell Fisheries] Wildlife of the Department of
21 Environmental Protection. Upon written request, the division or any
22 designated agent thereof, shall provide such a certificate stating that
23 the applicant has satisfactorily completed a course in gun safety to any
24 New Jersey resident who provides written proof that the person has
25 satisfactorily completed a course in gun safety, for nonresidents, in
26 another state that is essentially equivalent, as determined by the
27 division, to the course taught in New Jersey.

28 A person above the age of 10 who previously has had a license to
29 engage in hunting issued to him shall not be entitled to purchase
30 another such license in a subsequent year unless at the time of making
31 application he shall submit to the license issuing agent his license of a
32 previous year, or a certification from the Division of Fish, Game and
33 [Shell Fisheries] Wildlife stating that he held such a license.
34 (cf: P.L.1971, c.381, s.2)

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 2. Section 1 of P.L.1957, c.195 (C.23:3-7.1) is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 1. Notwithstanding any provisions contained in [sections]
4 R.S.23:3-1 to 23:3-22 [of the Revised Statutes,] concerning the
5 issuance of resident or nonresident bow and arrow licenses, any person
6 applying for a bow and arrow license must present to the issuing agent
7 either a certificate stating that the applicant has satisfactorily
8 completed a course in bow and arrow safety and proficiency, which
9 shall be signed by an agent of the Division of Fish [and] , Game and
10 Wildlife designated for the purpose whose fitness to give instructions
11 in bow handling has been determined by the Division of Fish [and] ,
12 Game and Wildlife of the Department of [Conservation and Economic
13 Development] Environmental Protection , or a previously issued bow
14 and arrow license.

15 Upon written request, the division or any designated agent thereof,
16 shall provide such a certificate stating that the applicant has
17 satisfactorily completed a course in bow and arrow safety and
18 proficiency to any New Jersey resident who provides written proof
19 that the person has satisfactorily completed a course in bow and arrow
20 safety and proficiency, for nonresidents, in another state that is
21 essentially equivalent, as determined by the division, to the course
22 taught in New Jersey.

23 (cf: P.L.1957, c.195, s.1)

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25 3. Section 1 of P.L.1977, c.320 (C.23:3-7.8) is amended to read as
26 follows:

27 1. Notwithstanding any provisions contained in R.S.23:3-1 to
28 23:3-22 [,] concerning the issuance of a resident or nonresident
29 trapping license, at the time an application for license is made by an
30 applicant of the age of 12 years or over, to whom a trapping license
31 has not previously been issued, [such] the applicant shall present to
32 the issuing agent a certificate stating that the applicant has
33 satisfactorily completed a course in trapping methods , which shall be
34 signed by an agent of the Division of Fish, Game and [Shell Fisheries]
35 Wildlife designated for that purpose, whose fitness to give instructions
36 in proper trapping methods has been determined by the division. Upon
37 written request, the division or any designated agent thereof, shall
38 provide such a certificate stating that the applicant has satisfactorily
39 completed a course in trapping methods to any New Jersey resident
40 who provides written proof that the person has satisfactorily
41 completed a course in trapping methods, for nonresidents, in another
42 state that is essentially equivalent, as determined by the division, to the
43 course taught in New Jersey.

44 A person of the age of 12 years or over who previously had a
45 license to engage in trapping issued to him [,] shall not be entitled to
46 purchase another such license in a subsequent year unless at the time

1 of making application he shall submit to the license issuing agent his
2 license of a previous year, or a certification from the division stating
3 that he held such license.

4 (cf: P.L.1977, c.320, s.1)

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6 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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9 STATEMENT

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11 Under current law, New Jersey resident hunters and trappers must
12 take firearm, bow and arrow, or trapping safety and proficiency
13 courses, as the case may be, taught by personnel or authorized agents
14 of the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife as a prerequisite to
15 obtaining their hunting or trapping licenses. The current practice of
16 the division, at least with regard to the firearm safety course, is to
17 require a New Jersey resident to take the course even if the person has
18 satisfactorily completed a similar course in another state to obtain a
19 nonresident hunting license in that state. This bill would eliminate the
20 requirement to take, in New Jersey, a second safety and proficiency
21 course in that limited instance with respect to the firearm, bow and
22 arrow, or trapping safety and proficiency courses, as the case may be,
23 provided that the New Jersey resident license applicant submits written
24 proof of satisfactory completion of a course, for nonresidents, in
25 another state that is essentially equivalent, as determined by the
26 division, to the course taught in New Jersey.

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31 Provides that completion by NJ resident of comparable nonresident
32 hunter or trapper safety and proficiency course in another state is
33 sufficient to meet NJ requirement for such training in NJ.