



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

Committee Bill No. 116

LCO No. 1874

01874SB00116ENV

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING CAMPING FEES PAID BY STATE RESIDENTS AND NONRESIDENTS AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN HUNTING OF DEER BY PISTOL AND REVOLVER.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 23-16 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 The Commissioner of Environmental Protection may execute with
4 residents and nonresidents of this state leases of camping sites and
5 buildings on the state parks for limited periods except as provided in
6 section 23-16a and the proceeds from such leases, together with any
7 other income resulting from the use of the state parks, shall be added
8 to the General Fund as provided in section 23-15. [Not later than April
9 1, 1982, said commissioner shall establish a schedule of fees payable for
10 the leasing of state camping sites and buildings in amounts not less
11 than one hundred seventy-five per cent of the amounts charged
12 according to the schedule of camping permit fees established by said
13 commissioner and in effect as of April 1, 1980.] Not later than April 1,
14 2010, said commissioner shall establish a schedule of fees payable for
15 the leasing of state camping sites and buildings for residents of this

16 state in amounts not greater than one hundred twenty per cent of the
17 amounts charged according to the schedule of camping permit fees
18 established by said commissioner and in effect as of April 1, 2009. Not
19 later than April 1, 2010, said commissioner shall establish a schedule of
20 fees payable for the leasing of state camping sites and buildings for
21 nonresidents of this state in amounts not greater than one hundred
22 fifty per cent of the amounts charged according to the schedule of
23 camping permit fees established by said commissioner and in effect as
24 of the effective date of this section. Annually not later than the first day
25 of November said commissioner shall allocate from funds available for
26 state park and forest areas in the then current fiscal year, an amount
27 not less than fifty per cent of the portion of such fees collected in the
28 preceding fiscal year directly related to the amount of increase in such
29 fees as required in this section, to be used for purposes of maintenance
30 and improvement of such state camping sites and buildings. Any fees
31 paid for any lease under this section shall not be subject to refund
32 under section 22a-10 unless (1) the lessee gives notice of cancellation to
33 the commissioner not later than fourteen days prior to the date such
34 lease is to commence, (2) the park is closed by executive order of the
35 Governor, or (3) the lessee submits proof, satisfactory to the
36 commissioner, of a death or serious illness in the family which
37 prevents use of the facility during the period of the lease. The
38 commissioner may deduct a reasonable service charge from any
39 amount refunded pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (3) of this section.

40 Sec. 2. Section 26-86a of the 2010 supplement to the general statutes
41 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
42 *from passage*):

43 (a) The commissioner shall establish by regulation adopted in
44 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 standards for deer
45 management, and methods, regulated areas, bag limits, seasons and
46 permit eligibility for hunting deer with bow and arrow, muzzleloader
47 and shotgun, except that no such hunting shall be permitted on
48 Sunday. No person shall hunt, pursue, wound or kill deer with a

49 firearm without first obtaining a deer permit from the commissioner in
50 addition to the license required by section 26-27. Application for such
51 permit shall be made on forms furnished by the commissioner and
52 containing such information as he may require. Such permit shall be of
53 a design prescribed by the commissioner, shall contain such
54 information and conditions as the commissioner may require, and may
55 be revoked for violation of any provision of this chapter or regulations
56 adopted pursuant thereto. As used in this section, "muzzleloader"
57 means a rifle or shotgun of at least forty-five caliber, incapable of firing
58 a self-contained cartridge, which uses powder, a projectile, including,
59 but not limited to, a standard round ball, mini-balls, maxi-balls and
60 Sabot bullets, and wadding loaded separately at the muzzle end and
61 "rifle" means a long gun the projectile of which is six millimeters or
62 larger in diameter. The fee for a firearms permit shall be twenty-eight
63 dollars for residents of the state and one hundred dollars for
64 nonresidents, except that any nonresident who is an active full-time
65 member of the armed forces, as defined in section 27-103, may
66 purchase a firearms permit for the same fee as is charged a resident of
67 the state. The commissioner shall issue, without fee, a private land
68 deer permit to the owner of ten or more acres of private land and the
69 husband or wife, parent, grandparent, sibling and any lineal
70 descendant of such owner, provided no such owner, husband or wife,
71 parent, grandparent, sibling or lineal descendant shall be issued more
72 than one such permit per season. Such permit shall allow the use of a
73 rifle, shotgun, muzzleloader or bow and arrow on such land from
74 November first to December thirty-first, inclusive. Deer may be so
75 hunted at such times and in such areas of such state-owned land as are
76 designated by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and on
77 privately owned land with the signed consent of the landowner, on
78 forms furnished by the department, and such signed consent shall be
79 carried by any person when so hunting on private land. The owner of
80 ten acres or more of private land may allow the use of a rifle to hunt
81 deer on such land during the shotgun season. The commissioner shall
82 determine, by regulation, the number of consent forms issued for any

83 regulated area established by said commissioner. The commissioner
84 shall provide for a fair and equitable random method for the selection
85 of successful applicants who may obtain shotgun and muzzleloader
86 permits for hunting deer on state lands. Any person whose name
87 appears on more than one application for a shotgun permit or more
88 than one application for a muzzleloader permit shall be disqualified
89 from the selection process for such permit. No person shall hunt,
90 pursue, wound or kill deer with a bow and arrow without first
91 obtaining a bow and arrow permit pursuant to section 26-86c. "Bow
92 and arrow" as used in this section and in section 26-86c means a bow
93 with a draw weight of not less than forty pounds. The arrowhead shall
94 have two or more blades and may not be less than seven-eighths of an
95 inch at the widest point. No person shall carry firearms of any kind
96 while hunting with a bow and arrow under said sections. The
97 commissioner shall issue, upon payment of a five-dollar fee, to the
98 owner of ten or more acres of private land or a resident of this state,
99 who has the consent of the owner of ten or more acres of private land,
100 a private land pistol or revolver permit that allows the use of a pistol
101 or revolver, as defined in section 29-27, to hunt deer from November
102 first to December thirty-first, inclusive, pursuant to the bag limit
103 established for a private land deer permit under this subsection. Any
104 person authorized to hunt deer by pistol or revolver pursuant to this
105 subsection shall use a cartridge of .22 caliber or larger for such
106 purpose.

107 (b) Any person who takes a deer without a permit shall be fined not
108 less than two hundred dollars or more than five hundred dollars or
109 imprisoned not less than thirty days or more than six months or shall
110 be both fined and imprisoned, for the first offense, and for each
111 subsequent offense shall be fined not less than two hundred dollars or
112 more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than one year
113 or shall be both fined and imprisoned.

114 Sec. 3. Section 26-35 of the 2010 supplement to the general statutes is
115 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*

116 *passage*):

117 Each firearms hunting, archery hunting, trapping or sport fishing
 118 license or the combination firearms hunting and fishing license, except
 119 licenses issued pursuant to subdivisions (4), (17) and (19) of subsection
 120 (a) of section 26-28, shall expire December thirty-first next following
 121 the date of issue and shall not be transferable. No person shall change
 122 or alter such a license or loan to another or permit another to have or
 123 use such license issued to himself or use any license issued to another.
 124 All licenses shall be carried as designated by the commissioner at all
 125 times when such licensee is hunting, trapping or sport fishing and
 126 shall be produced for examination upon demand of any conservation
 127 officer or other employee of the department designated by the
 128 commissioner or any other officer authorized to make arrests or the
 129 owner or lessee or the agent of any owner or lessee of any land or
 130 water upon which such licensed person may be found. Whenever the
 131 commissioner has designated any land or water area a wildlife
 132 management study area, he may require such licensee to surrender his
 133 license upon entering such area and issue to the licensee an arm band,
 134 back tag or other identification. The license shall be returned to the
 135 licensee upon leaving such area. Each person receiving a license to
 136 hunt or to trap shall make an annual report to the commissioner in
 137 such form and at such time as may be required by him showing the
 138 numbers and kinds of birds and quadrupeds killed or trapped. A
 139 firearms hunting or a combination firearms hunting and fishing license
 140 shall not authorize the carrying or possession of a pistol or revolver,
 141 except as provided in section 23-16, as amended by this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	23-16
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	26-86a
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	26-35

Statement of Purpose:

To lower camping fees for state residents from their current levels, increase camping fees for nonresidents from their current levels and authorize the hunting of deer by pistol or revolver under certain conditions.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. PRAGUE, 19th Dist.

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