

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment offered the following substitute to SB 332:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to hunting, trapping, or fishing, so as to provide for an outdoor mentor program
3 within the Department of Natural Resources; to provide for definitions; to provide for
4 program criteria and terms and conditions; to provide for a special outdoor passport for
5 program participants; to provide for findings; to amend Code Section 27-2-23 of the Official
6 Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to hunting, trapping, and fishing licenses, permits, tags,
7 and stamp fees, so as to provide for a fee for nonresident youth sportsman's licenses; to
8 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
12 hunting, trapping, or fishing, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

13 "27-2-4.5.

14 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

15 (1) 'Outdoor mentee' means any individual to whom the department has never issued a
16 hunting or fishing license under this chapter.

17 (2) 'Outdoor mentor' means any individual who is 18 years of age or older and who has
18 a current license issued pursuant to this chapter.

19 (3) 'Outdoor passport' means a reduced cost license issued by the department which
20 licenses or permits noncommercial hunting and fishing privileges across all categories
21 of hunting and fishing.

22 (b) The General Assembly finds that an outdoor mentor program can spark interest in
23 hunting and fishing as lifelong activities; provide safe, memorable, and positive
24 introductions for first-time hunting and fishing experiences; and promote safe and ethical
25 hunting and fishing practices.

26 (c) The department shall establish and maintain an outdoor mentor program that enables
 27 experienced hunters and fishers to mentor new hunters and fishers in safe, ethical, and
 28 responsible hunting and fishing practices. In furtherance of such outdoor mentor program,
 29 the department:

30 (1) Shall establish a mentor education course that provides instruction to outdoor
 31 mentors, the completion of which shall be required before he or she may mentor an
 32 outdoor mentee under the program;

33 (2) Shall work with partners to develop incentives for outdoor mentors and may include
 34 reduced license fees for an outdoor mentor participating in the program;

35 (3) Shall issue outdoor mentees participating in the program an outdoor passport which
 36 shall expire one year after issuance; and

37 (4) Shall prepare necessary applications and impose any further criteria and terms and
 38 conditions not inconsistent with this Code section for implementation of the program."

39 **SECTION 2.**

40 Code Section 27-2-23 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to hunting,
 41 trapping, and fishing licenses, permits, tags, and stamp fees, is amended by adding a new
 42 subparagraph to paragraph (3) as follows:

43 "(H) Nonresident youth sportsman's license Annual \$50.00
 44 for 15 years of age and under"

45 **SECTION 3.**

46 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.