

Senate Bill 332

By: Senators Harper of the 7th, Heath of the 31st, Brass of the 28th, Ginn of the 47th, Burke of the 11th and others

**AS PASSED SENATE**

**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:**

**SECTION 1.**

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

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.