

# SENATE BILL 225

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CF 6lr0578

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By: **Senator Simonaire**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2016

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Hunting and Fishing Licenses – Former Prisoners of War, Recipients of the**  
3 **Purple Heart Award, and Disabled Veterans**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to issue certain  
5 complimentary hunting and fishing licenses to an out-of-state person who certifies  
6 that the person is a former prisoner of war or a 100% service connected disabled  
7 American veteran if the person's state of residence extends similar privileges to  
8 former prisoners of war or 100% service connected disabled American veterans of  
9 this State; repealing a certain limit on the number of complimentary angler's licenses  
10 for each state other than Maryland that may be outstanding at any time; making a  
11 certain complimentary hunting license subject to certain provisions of law; making  
12 conforming changes; requiring the Department to implement a program to provide  
13 certain discounted licenses to recipients of the Purple Heart Award; providing for  
14 the termination of certain provisions of this Act; and generally relating to hunting  
15 and fishing licenses.

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
17 Article – Natural Resources  
18 Section 4–607, 4–614(a)(2), 4–745(e), and 10–303(a)(2)  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
22 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

23 **Article – Natural Resources**

24 4–607.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) (1) The Department may issue annually a complimentary angler's license  
2 to the President of the United States, the governor of any state, and any official of the game  
3 and fish department of any other state.

4 (2) The Department may issue a lifetime complimentary angler's license to  
5 any Maryland resident who certifies that the resident is a former prisoner of war or 100%  
6 service connected disabled American veteran.

7 **(3) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE A LIFETIME COMPLIMENTARY**  
8 **ANGLER'S LICENSE TO AN OUT-OF-STATE PERSON WHO CERTIFIES THAT THE**  
9 **PERSON IS A FORMER PRISONER OF WAR OR A 100% SERVICE CONNECTED DISABLED**  
10 **AMERICAN VETERAN IF THE PERSON'S STATE OF RESIDENCE EXTENDS SIMILAR**  
11 **PRIVILEGES TO FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR OR 100% SERVICE CONNECTED**  
12 **DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS OF THIS STATE.**

13 (b) [Not more than 20 complimentary licenses for each state other than Maryland  
14 shall be outstanding at any time.

15 (c)] A complimentary license is not transferable and shall be issued without a fee  
16 on forms the Department designates.

17 [(d)] (C) For the purposes of this section, "former prisoner of war" means a  
18 person who, while serving in the active military, naval, or air service of the United States,  
19 was forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by an enemy government or its agents,  
20 or a hostile force, during a period of armed conflict.

21 4-614.

22 (a) (2) A trout stamp is not required of the following:

23 (i) A holder of a current resident consolidated senior sport fishing  
24 license issued under § 4-216 of this title;

25 (ii) A holder of a lifetime complimentary angler's license for service  
26 disabled veterans or former prisoners of war issued under § 4-607(a)(2) **OR (3)** of this  
27 subtitle;

28 (iii) A person authorized by a disability exemption issued under  
29 § 4-217 of this title;

30 (iv) A resident serving in the armed forces of the United States while  
31 on leave if the resident possesses a copy of the resident's official leave order while fishing;  
32 or

33 (v) A person under 16 years of age.

1 4-745.

2 (e) (1) In this subsection, “former prisoner of war” means a person who, while  
3 serving in the active military, naval, or air service of the United States, was forcibly  
4 detained or interned in the line of duty by an enemy government or its agents, or a hostile  
5 force, during a period of armed conflict.

6 (2) The Department may issue a lifetime complimentary Chesapeake Bay  
7 and coastal sport fishing license to any Maryland resident who certifies that the resident  
8 is a former prisoner of war or a 100% service connected disabled American veteran.

9 (3) **THE DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE A LIFETIME COMPLIMENTARY**  
10 **CHESAPEAKE BAY AND COASTAL SPORT FISHING LICENSE TO AN OUT-OF-STATE**  
11 **PERSON WHO CERTIFIES THAT THE PERSON IS A FORMER PRISONER OF WAR OR A**  
12 **100% SERVICE CONNECTED DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN IF THE PERSON’S STATE**  
13 **OF RESIDENCE EXTENDS SIMILAR PRIVILEGES TO FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR OR**  
14 **100% SERVICE CONNECTED DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS OF THIS STATE.**

15 (4) A complimentary license is not transferable and shall be issued on  
16 forms the Department designates.

17 10-303.

18 (a) (2) (i) **[The] SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 10-301.1 OF**  
19 **THIS SUBTITLE, THE** Department may issue a lifetime complimentary hunter’s license to  
20 a Maryland resident who certifies that the resident is a former prisoner of war or 100%  
21 service connected disabled American veteran.

22 (ii) **[The] SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 10-301.1 OF**  
23 **THIS SUBTITLE, THE** Department may issue a lifetime complimentary hunter’s license to  
24 an out-of-state person who certifies that the person is a former prisoner of war or a 100%  
25 service connected disabled American veteran if the person’s state of residence extends  
26 similar privileges to former prisoners of war or 100% service connected disabled American  
27 veterans of this State.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Natural  
29 Resources shall implement a program to provide discounted anglers’ licenses, Chesapeake  
30 Bay and coastal sport fishing licenses, and hunter’s licenses to recipients of the Purple  
31 Heart Award.

32 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
33 1, 2016. Section 2 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 5 months  
34 and, at the end of December 31, 2018, with no further action required by the General  
35 Assembly, Section 2 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.