

2022 Legislative Request Overview

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Agenda



Welcome

Code Reviser draft language of Agency proposals was provided to Commissioners in early July

Outreach has continued with BPAG members

If approved, outreach to OFM and Legislators



Agency Request Legislation:

1. ADA Advisory Committee Composition
2. Recruitment/Licensure
3. Electronic and print-from-home licenses
4. Discover Pass Free Day Alignment and Vehicle Access Pass



ADA Advisory Committee

- Allows persons with demonstrable experience working with disabled persons in a nature resource environment.
- Removes preference for certain disabilities (currently lists ambulatory, cardiac, vision or breathing difficulties).



Recruit and Retain – Youth Focus

Fishing

- Allow young anglers to fish without a license until the age of 16, aligning with the age young hunters are required to buy a discounted license. Currently, youth are defined as persons under the age of 15 for fishing, and under the age of 16 for hunting.
- Allow the public to purchase temporary fishing licenses, rather than annual licenses, to participate in the popular lowland lake trout opener, which typically provides anglers a great opportunity to catch fish.

Hunting

- Provide an incentive—a \$20 discount—toward the first purchase of a hunting license for new hunter education graduates.
- Allow individuals to defer hunters education for one year as long as they are accompanied by a licensed hunter who is over 18 years of age.
- Exempt retired members of the U.S. military and current or retired federal peace officers from firearm skills portions of hunter education



Recruit and Retain - continued

Licensing

- Give the department the broader authority to create bundled license packages and multi-year packages through rule, and provides the ability for the Director to offer promotional pricing.
- Adjust the residency definition of active duty members of the U.S. military, as well as their spouses and children, so service members qualify for licenses at resident rates.
- Allow out-of-state, full-time, post-secondary students at an accredited institution to purchase hunting and fishing licenses at resident rates. Children and spouses of eligible students would also qualify for resident rates.



Electronic Licensing

The commission may adopt rules pertaining to the form, period of validity, use, possession, and display of licenses, permits, tags, stamps, and raffle tickets required by this chapter. This authority extends to the issuance of electronic licenses, permits, tags, stamps, raffle tickets, and catch record cards, as well as their use, possession, display, and presentation to agency staff.



State Recreational Land Access

- Provides a vehicle access pass for personal use shellfish and seaweed licenses.
- Extends current 12 days of free parking by State Parks to all state recreational lands. Provides for DFW and DNR to consult on which dates.



HB 1508 – Crab and Domoic Acid

- Creates authority for State Board of Health to regulate crab with respect to health and safety in relation to biotoxin contamination
- Enforcement depends upon clear statutory authority
- Requesting FWC support



Next Steps



Questions?

