



Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists

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On the Front Lines – So You Can Be in the Woods, On the Water or At the Range!

Transcript provided courtesy of Pennsylvania Legislative Services

House Game and Fisheries Committee

06/24/2025, 11:45 a.m., Room 523, Irvis Office Building

By Zoe Buchmann, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider one bill.

[06/24/2025](#) [Senate Bill 232 - Bring Up The Bill For Consideration](#)

[06/24/2025](#) [Senate Bill 232 - Report Bill As Committed](#)

SB 232 – (PN 185) Amends Title 30 (Fish), in fishing licenses, further providing for disabled veterans and former prisoners of war and for deployed Pennsylvania National Guard members and repealing provisions relating to reserve component of armed forces members. Repeals general rules provisions for disabled veterans. Provides the disability is service-connected. Requires documentation from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Revises eligibility requirements for a lifetime license. Includes licenses for reserve component of armed forces members. Repeals section 2707.2 of Title 30. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

A01275, by Maloney, amends Title 34, section 2706 to remove the current requirement that disabled veterans pursuing a free or reduced-cost hunting or furtaking license have a disability related to a war or armed conflict. The amendment **failed**, on a party-line vote, with Democrats voting in the negative.

Minority Chairman David Maloney (R-Berks) explained that the proposed amendment aimed to treat hunters the same way as fishermen under the law. He noted that the issue had been ongoing for some time and shared that he had recently received an email from a sportsman experiencing the same problem. He added that the Pennsylvania Game Commission's response had been to suggest contacting the legislature to address the issue. He stated that the amendment simply sought to ensure equal treatment for all sportsmen.

Rep. Carol Kazeem (D-Delaware) asked whether the amendment proposed that individuals who are 100% disabled should not be required to provide documentation. Griffin Caruso, Republican executive director, answered that they would have to provide documentation initially to prove they are 100% disabled but not annually. Rep. Kazeem inquired what the opposition of the hunters would be and if they believe that there is a discrepancy. Chairman Maloney emphasized that the underlying bill only addressed fishermen, allowing disabled veterans to avoid having to repeatedly verify their documentation for fishing licenses. He stated that the proposed amendment aimed to extend that same benefit to hunters, treating all sportsmen equally. He reiterated that the purpose of the amendment was simply to ensure that both hunters and fishermen with disabilities would be covered under the same rule.

Rep. Joe Hohenstein (D-Philadelphia) asked if the amendment had been agreed to by the bill's prime sponsor. Chairman Maloney stated that it was not.

Majority Chairman Anita Kulik (D-Allegheny) noted that they ran the same bill out of the Senate last session and stated that while she appreciates the intent and language of the amendment, she would instead like to run it as a standalone bill. She asked for a no vote.

On the bill, Chairman Maloney stated that he supports the bill but does not fully understand why they could not include the amendment in the language of the bill.

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