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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1984

— ● —

ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 1025

(By Mr. Del. Steptoe & Del. J. Martin)

— ● —

Passed February 8, 1984

In Effect Ninety Days From Passage



ENROLLED

H. B. 1025

(By DELEGATE STEPTOE and DELEGATE J. MARTIN)

[Passed February 8, 1984; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section forty-b, article two, chapter twenty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to permitting persons holding a Class A-1 small arms hunting license to use a pistol or revolver with a barrel length of four inches or more; requiring the promulgation of certain regulations with respect thereto; and the disposition of fees collected in connection to such licensure.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section forty-b, article two, chapter twenty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2. WILDLIFE RESOURCES.

§20-2-40b. Class A-1 small arms hunting license.

1 Notwithstanding the provisions of section two, article seven,
2 chapter sixty-one of this code, a Class A-1 license shall be
3 a small arms hunting license. If a person is otherwise
4 qualified, a Class A-1 license may be issued by the depart-
5 ment, pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the
6 director, which regulations shall include provision for the
7 establishment of a voluntary program available to citizens of
8 the state pertaining to safety and proficiency in the use of a
9 revolver or pistol, to a person twenty-one years of age or
10 older who holds a valid Class A or Class AB license, or to a

11 person who is a resident and sixty-five years of age or older,
12 but a Class A-1 license shall never be issued to a person who
13 has been convicted of a misdemeanor in any way associated
14 with the use of firearms or dangerous weapons or who has
15 been convicted of any felony nor shall the clerk of the county
16 commission issue A-1 licenses as provided in section thirty-
17 two, article two of this chapter.

18 A Class A-1 license shall entitle the licensee to hunt, as
19 otherwise permitted by the provisions of this chapter, but
20 only during small game and big game seasons as established
21 annually by the director, with either a revolver or pistol
22 which has a barrel at least four inches in length. A Class A-1
23 license shall entitle the licensee to carry or have in his pos-
24 session one, and only one, revolver or pistol when going
25 to and from his home or residence and a place of hunting
26 and while hunting in the place: *Provided*, That such Class
27 A-1 license shall not be valid unless the licensee have in his
28 possession a valid Class A or Class AB license or be a resident
29 and sixty-five years of age or older: *Provided, however*,
30 That at all times, when not actually hunting, the revolver or
31 pistol shall be unloaded.

32 While hunting, the licensee shall carry the revolver or
33 pistol outside of his person in an unconcealed and easily
34 visible place. At all other times the revolver or pistol shall be
35 cased or dismantled in a way to cause it not to operate. When
36 being transported in a vehicle it shall be kept in a locked
37 compartment of the vehicle which shall not be accessible
38 from the inside of such vehicle.

39 The fee shall be five dollars for a Class A-1 license. All
40 such fees collected shall be deposited in the state treasury and
41 credited to the law-enforcement division of the department of
42 natural resources. Such fees shall be paid out of the state
43 treasury on order of the director and used solely for law-
44 enforcement purposes.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

James L. Davis
Chairman Senate Committee

Arnold Green
Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect ninety days from passage.

Judd C. Wick
Clerk of the Senate

Donald L. Hoff
Clerk of the House of Delegates
Warren R. McAfee
President of the Senate

William M. DeLoach, Jr.
Speaker House of Delegates

The within approved this the 17
day of February, 1984.

John R. Ruffin
Governor

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