

FIFTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION

PROPOSED AMENDMENT DIRECTED TO A COMMITTEE

February 24, 2025

Mr. Chair:

I propose to the SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE the following amendments to

SENATE BILL 5, as amended

1. Strike Senate Rules Committee Amendment 3.
2. Strike Senate Conservation Committee Amendment 17.
3. On page 17, between lines 19 and 20, insert:

"SECTION 8. Section 17-3-7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1912, Chapter 85, Section 48, as amended) is amended to read:

"17-3-7. BLANK FORMS--LICENSE ISSUED ONLY ON APPLICATION--FALSE STATEMENT VOIDS LICENSE--RECORDS--REPORTS--ACCOUNTING FOR FEES COLLECTED--REFUND OF FEES--TRANSFER OF HUNTING LICENSE.--

A. The director of the department of [~~game and fish~~] wildlife shall prescribe and procure the printing of all forms and blanks that may be required to carry out the intent of Chapter 17 NMSA 1978. All necessary blanks shall be furnished by the director to the license collectors. No license shall be issued except as provided in Section 17-3-5 NMSA 1978. Any false statement in any application shall render the license issued void.

B. A license collector shall keep a correct and complete record of licenses issued, which record shall remain in the license collector's office and be open to inspection by the public at all

times.

C. A license collector may collect and retain a vendor fee for each license or permit issued; provided that the fee shall be just and reasonable, as determined by regulation of the state [~~game~~ wildlife commission, and shall not exceed [~~one dollar (\$1.00)~~] vendor costs for each license or permit issued; and provided further that no such fee shall be collected by the department of [~~game and fish~~] wildlife from the purchaser of a special license. "Special license" includes those licenses for the following species: antelope, elk, Barbary sheep, bighorn sheep, bison, oryx, ibex [~~gazelle~~] and javelina.

D. A license collector shall remit to the director of the department of [~~game and fish~~] wildlife the statutory fee of all licenses and permits sold on or before the tenth day of the month following and shall by the same time report the number and kind of licenses issued.

E. Except as provided in Section 17-1-14 NMSA 1978, the director of the department of [~~game and fish~~] wildlife shall turn over all money so received to the state treasurer to be credited to the game protection fund.

F. The director of the department of [~~game and fish~~] wildlife, in the director's sole discretion, may authorize a refund of the amount of a hunting license fee from the game and fish suspense fund if:

(1) upon written application by the licensee, prior to the time of the hunt for which the license has been issued, the director finds that:

(a) the licensee has a disability, due to a verified injury or life-threatening illness, that prohibits the licensee from hunting during the period that the license is valid; or

(b) the licensee has been deployed by the military and the deployment prevents the licensee from traveling to the hunt during the period that the license is valid;

(2) upon written application by a personal representative of a licensee's estate, the director finds that the licensee died prior to the time of the hunt for which the license was issued; or

(3) the director cancels a hunt due to forest fire or other natural disaster.

G. The director of the department of [~~game and fish~~] wildlife, in the director's sole discretion, may authorize a transfer of a hunting license:

(1) to the licensee's designee if, upon written application by the licensee, prior to the time of the hunt for which the license has been issued, the director finds that:

(a) the licensee has a disability, due to a verified injury or life-threatening illness, that prohibits the licensee from hunting during the period that the license is valid; or

(b) the licensee has been deployed by the military and the deployment prevents the licensee from traveling to the hunt during the period that the license is valid;

(2) to the designee of the licensee's estate if, upon written application by the personal representative of the licensee's estate, the director finds that the licensee died prior to the time of the hunt for which the license was issued; or

(3) upon written application by a licensee, to a nonprofit organization approved by the state [~~game~~] wildlife commission.

H. The state [~~game~~] wildlife commission may prescribe, by rule, the documentation necessary for a finding pursuant to Subsection F or G of this section."".

4. Renumber the succeeding sections accordingly.

5. On page 24, strike lines 11 through 19 and insert in lieu thereof:

"SECTION 12. REPEAL.--Sections 17-1-1 and 17-2-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1921, Chapter 35, Section 1 and Laws 1937, Chapter 23, Section 1, as amended) are repealed.

SECTION 13. EFFECTIVE DATE.--

A. The effective date of the provisions of Sections 8 and 9 of this act is April 1, 2026.

B. The effective date of the provisions of Sections 1, 4 through 7, 10 and 12 of this act is July 1, 2026.

C. The effective date of the provisions of Sections 2, 3 and 11 of this act is January 1, 2027."

Respectfully submitted,

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