

SESSION OF 2025

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2028

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Brief*

HB 2028, as amended, would amend law concerning the resident senior combination hunting and fishing pass and the Kansas kids combination lifetime hunting and fishing license (license).

Resident Senior Combination Hunting and Fishing Pass

The bill would revive law authorizing the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) to offer a resident senior combination hunting and fishing pass and remove the sunset date. These provisions allowed any Kansan age 65 and older to purchase a discounted lifetime hunting and fishing permit. The provisions expired on June 30, 2020, and the bill would state the provisions would be effective as of January 1, 2025.

Kansas Kids Combination Lifetime Hunting and Fishing License

Under current law, licenses may be issued by the Secretary of Wildlife and Parks to Kansas residents who are seven years of age or younger. For a child five years of age or younger, the license fee is \$300, and for a child six or seven years of age, the license fee is \$500.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <https://klrd.gov/>

The bill would remove these age ranges and the accompanying fees. The bill would increase the age limit for a child to receive a license from 7 years of age to 15 years of age and set the fee for all children 15 years of age or younger to \$500.

The bill would also remove the sunset for the license provisions that are currently set to expire on July 1, 2032.

The bill would be in effect upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs at the request of Representative Corbet.

House Committee on Federal and State Affairs

In the House Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by Representatives Corbet and W. Carpenter. The conferees stated their intent to restore the language that had sunset in 2020, which would allow more participation in hunting and fishing by senior citizens. They further stated that removing the sunset on the youth combination license would allow for greater participation by youth in the future.

Written-only neutral testimony was provided by the Acting Secretary of Wildlife and Parks and by a representative of the Kansas Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers. The neutral testimony stated the KDWP has remedied the unavailability of additional senior combination licenses by offering additional numbers of discounted senior annual licenses. Additionally, neutral testimony stated concern with future availability of federal funds under the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937 (also known as the Pittman-Robertson Act) that could be jeopardized if

hunting and fishing licenses do not meet federal requirements.

No other testimony was provided.

Senate Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

In the Senate Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was presented by Representative Corbet emphasizing his previous testimony and the effects of the bill.

Written-only neutral testimony was provided by the Acting Secretary of Wildlife and Parks.

No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to:

- Remove previous age ranges and fees for which a Kansas kids lifetime combination hunting and fishing license may be issued and establish the maximum age of 15 years and a universal fee of \$500; and
- Change the effective date of the provisions of the bill concerning the resident senior combination hunting and fishing pass from July 1, 2020, to January 1, 2025.

Fiscal Information

A revised fiscal note on the amended bill was not immediately available.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, KDWP states enactment of the bill would decrease fee fund revenues because seniors currently pay a higher price for their hunting

and fishing licenses due to the lapse of the lifetime combination license provisions. Reintroduction of this license would reduce revenues by an unknown amount.

Additionally, the sale of licenses is used to calculate the amount of federal funds the agency receives; however, KDWP cannot estimate the potential increase or decrease in federal funds, if any. KDWP also states that removal of the sunset date for the Kansas kids lifetime combination hunting and fishing license would not have a fiscal effect. Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2026 Governor's Budget Report*.

Department of Wildlife and Parks; hunting; fishing; lifetime combination license; seniors; youth