

SESSION OF 2026

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2502

As Amended by House Committee on Federal
and State Affairs

Brief*

HB 2502, as amended, would revive law authorizing resident senior combination hunting and fishing licenses, amend the Kansas kids lifetime combination hunting and fishing license fees, and remove the sunsets on each.

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

Resident Senior Combination Hunting and Fishing License

The bill would revive law authorizing the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) to offer a resident senior combination hunting and fishing license to any Kansan age 65 and older. These statutory provisions expired on June 30, 2020, and the bill would revive the provisions effective January 1, 2026, and make further amendments. [Note: No hunting or fishing license is currently required for Kansas residents who are age 75 and older.]

Prior to June 30, 2020, the senior combination hunting and fishing license had a fee cap of not more than one-eighth of the fee for a general combination lifetime hunting and fishing license. This fee cap would be revived by the bill without further amendment. [Note: The general combination lifetime hunting and fishing license fee is currently set at \$962.50.]

*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 also direct KDWP, on or before July 1, 2026, to convert any existing five-year resident senior fishing, resident senior hunting, or resident senior combination hunting and fishing license sold by KDWP after September 11, 2025, and before July 1, 2026, to a resident senior combination hunting and fishing license.

Kansas Kids Combination Lifetime Hunting and Fishing License

Under current law, Kansas kids combination lifetime hunting and fishing licenses may be issued by the Secretary of Wildlife and Parks to Kansas residents who are age 7 or younger. For a child who is age 5 or younger, the license fee is \$300, and for a child who is ages 6 or 7, the license fee is \$500.

The bill would increase the age limit for a child to purchase a license from age 7 to age 15 and lower the license fee for a child who is ages 6 to 15 to \$400 from \$500.

The bill would also remove the sunset for the Kansas kids lifetime combination hunting and fishing license provisions that are currently set to expire on July 1, 2032.

Background

Statutory provisions authorizing the sale of resident senior combination hunting and fishing licenses expired on June 30, 2020. Pursuant to rules and regulations effective September 12, 2025, KDWP began issuing five-year resident senior combination hunting and fishing licenses.

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 Representative Corbet and Representative W. Carpenter. The conferees stated their intent to restore the language that had sunset in 2020, to 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.

Neutral testimony was provided by a representative of KDWP. The representative provided language recommendations; discussed KDWP's five-year fishing, hunting, and combination hunting and fishing licenses; and federal threshold guidelines, which may not be met should certain licensure costs for 6 to 15 year-olds decrease.

No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill to add a provision requiring KDWP to convert any existing five-year senior fishing, hunting, or combination hunting and fishing license sold by KDWP after September 11, 2025, and before July 1, 2026, to a resident senior combination hunting and fishing license.

Fiscal Information

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.

KDWP also states enactment of the bill would allow children ages 8 to 15 to obtain a lifetime license, which could increase the number of lifetime licenses sold and reduce the

number of yearly licenses sold to the same age group. KDWP is unable to estimate the overall fiscal effect but estimates the long-term effect would be a loss in revenue.

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 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

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