

**SENATE BILL NO. 2091**

Introduced by

Natural Resources Committee

(At the request of the Game and Fish Department)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 20.1-03-17 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to disposition of game and fish license proceeds; and to provide a continuing  
3 appropriation.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 20.1-03-17 of the 1997 Supplement to the North  
6 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **20.1-03-17. Issuance of licenses - Who to issue - County auditor may appoint**  
8 **agents to receive service fees - Disposition of proceeds - Continuing appropriation.** All  
9 hunting, fur-bearer, fishing, and taxidermists' licenses must be issued by county auditors, the  
10 director, deputy director, and bonded game wardens. The county auditors, deputy director, and  
11 each bonded game warden shall send the director all license fees. For each license the county  
12 auditor issues, the county auditor shall collect the authorized charges and record them in the  
13 county auditor's record of cash received. The county auditor ~~shall retain~~ is entitled to be  
14 reimbursed, as compensation, twenty-five cents for the issuance of each of the first one  
15 thousand resident hunting, fishing, or fur-bearer licenses issued each year and fifteen cents for  
16 the issuance of each resident hunting, fishing, or fur-bearer license issued in excess of the first  
17 one thousand licenses issued each year; one dollar for the issuance of each nonresident  
18 hunting or fur-bearer license; twenty-five cents for the issuance of each nonresident fishing  
19 license; and ten cents for the issuance of each nonresident general game license. The  
20 compensation due the county auditor for the issuance of licenses is hereby appropriated as a  
21 standing and continuing appropriation from the game and fish fund for the purposes of this  
22 section.

23 The county auditor may appoint agents to distribute hunting and fishing licenses or  
24 stamps. However, a county auditor may not provide hunting licenses to agents located outside

1 this state. The county auditor may require agents to show evidence of adequate financial  
2 security before the agents are appointed. Adequate financial security may be evidenced by a  
3 letter of credit, cash deposit, or bond. Agents may be bonded through the state bonding fund.  
4 The agents may charge purchasers a service fee of fifty cents for each license. Service fees  
5 may be retained by the agent. The remainder of the license fees must be returned to the  
6 county auditor, for deposit with the county treasurer, at least once each month, and not later  
7 than three days after the close of the month. Notwithstanding section 26.1-21-11, if a claim  
8 against the state bonding fund is not filed within sixty days of the expiration of the reporting  
9 period provided in this section, the claim is waived. Deposits are to be accompanied by a  
10 report showing the amounts received from the sale of each type of license, the amount  
11 retained, and the net amounts deposited. The county treasurer shall credit the fees so  
12 deposited to a separate account and shall hold the fees, subject to warrant for payment thereof  
13 drawn by the county auditor in favor of the director. The director shall deposit all license or  
14 stamp fees received with the state treasurer to be credited to the game and fish fund.