

Introduced by

Representatives Drovdal, Porter

Senators Fischer, Lyson, Urlacher

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 7 of section 20.1-03-11 and section  
2 20.1-08-04.6 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to preferential landowner licenses to  
3 hunt elk.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 7 of section 20.1-03-11 of the North Dakota  
6 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7 7. A resident who has executed a lease for at least one hundred sixty acres [64.75  
8 hectares] of land and who actively farms or ranches that land or a resident who  
9 holds title to at least one hundred sixty acres [64.75 hectares] of land is eligible to  
10 apply for a license to hunt elk upon filing a signed application describing that land  
11 and payment of the fee requirement for a resident big game license. The land  
12 must be within a unit open for the hunting of elk. The license must include a legal  
13 description of the eligible land described in the completed application and may be  
14 used to hunt elk within the district or unit in which the land described in the  
15 completed application is located. Upon request, a lessee shall provide proof that  
16 the land described in the completed application is leased for agricultural purposes.  
17 A resident who is eligible for a license under this subsection may transfer that  
18 eligibility for the license to a spouse or legal dependent residing customarily with  
19 the resident, but no more than one license may be issued under this subsection for  
20 any qualifying land. ~~A resident transferring eligibility under this subsection is not~~  
21 ~~eligible to apply for a license to hunt elk in future years but is eligible to participate~~  
22 ~~in the raffle under section 20.1-08-04.6.~~ If not otherwise specified in an agricultural  
23 lease, the landowner is entitled to receive the license. The governor's  
24 proclamation may restrict the districts or units for which preferential licenses may

1 be issued under this subsection. However, the governor shall give primary  
2 consideration to allowing preferential licenses under this subsection to be issued to  
3 persons owning or leasing land in the following areas: that portion of township one  
4 hundred forty-seven north, range ninety-five west which is north and west of state  
5 highway 22; township one hundred forty-six north, range ninety-six west; township  
6 one hundred forty-seven north, range ninety-six west; township one hundred  
7 forty-eight north, range ninety-six west; township one hundred forty-six north,  
8 range ninety-seven west; township one hundred forty-seven north, range  
9 ninety-seven west; township one hundred forty-eight north, range ninety-seven  
10 west of the fifth principal meridian, in Dunn County; the west one-half of township  
11 one hundred forty-nine north, range ninety-five west; township one hundred  
12 forty-nine north, range ninety-six west, and township one hundred forty-nine north,  
13 range ninety-seven west of the fifth principal meridian, in McKenzie County; and  
14 other areas within a district or unit open for hunting of elk as prescribed in the  
15 governor's proclamation. The number of licenses issued under this subsection for  
16 each designated district or unit for hunting elk may not exceed fifteen percent of  
17 the total licenses prescribed in the governor's proclamation for each district or unit.  
18 If the number of applications for licenses to be issued under this subsection in a  
19 district or unit exceeds the maximum number of such licenses allocated to that  
20 district or unit, the licenses to be issued must be issued by lottery as prescribed in  
21 the governor's proclamation. A person who receives a license under this  
22 subsection is ~~not eligible to apply for a license to hunt elk in future years but is~~  
23 ~~eligible to participate in the raffle under section 20.1-08-04.6~~ participate in a  
24 weighted lottery with other landowners who have received licenses under this  
25 section. The director shall issue any licenses not issued to an individual who has  
26 not previously received a license under this section to individuals who have  
27 received a license under this section in a weighted lottery giving preference each  
28 year to those individuals who have not received a second license. Notwithstanding  
29 ~~this subsection, if a person other than the transferee of license eligibility is~~  
30 ~~unsuccessful in harvesting an elk under this subsection, that person may return the~~  
31 ~~unused license to the department and is eligible to apply for, but not transfer, a~~

1 ~~one-time additional license to hunt elk in future years. A person who receives a~~  
2 ~~second license under this subsection is not eligible to participate in the raffle under~~  
3 ~~section 20.1-08-04.6.~~ Licenses to hunt elk may not be issued under this  
4 subsection when the total number of licenses prescribed in the governor's  
5 proclamation is less than twenty. If a person receives a license under this  
6 subsection, the person's spouse, children, and parents living with the person are  
7 not eligible to receive a license under this subsection for the district or unit in which  
8 the land described in the completed application is located, unless the person has  
9 sold or otherwise transferred the person's rights to the land described in the  
10 completed application. The director may issue special elk depredation  
11 management licenses to landowners in designated areas around Theodore  
12 Roosevelt national park upon payment of the fee requirement for a resident big  
13 game license. The provisions of this section governing the number of licenses  
14 issued for each designated district or unit for hunting elk do not apply to special elk  
15 depredation management licenses and a person who receives such a license  
16 under this subsection is eligible to apply for a license to hunt elk in future years  
17 and is eligible to participate in the raffle under section 20.1-08-04.6.

18 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 20.1-08-04.6 of the North Dakota Century Code  
19 is amended and reenacted as follows:

20 **20.1-08-04.6. Governor's proclamation concerning the hunting of elk - Rocky**  
21 **mountain elk foundation raffle.** The governor may by proclamation provide for a season to  
22 hunt elk in a manner, number, places, and times as the governor prescribes. Licenses to hunt  
23 elk must be issued by lottery, except as provided under subsection 7 of section 20.1-03-11,  
24 with only residents eligible to apply; however, the governor may by proclamation make  
25 available to the rocky mountain elk foundation and the North American wildlife enforcement  
26 memorial museum and educational center a license to hunt elk in a manner, places, and times  
27 as the governor prescribes. The rocky mountain elk foundation and the North American wildlife  
28 enforcement memorial museum and educational center shall hold a raffle under rules adopted  
29 by the director with residents and nonresidents eligible to participate. No more than ten percent  
30 of the gross proceeds of the raffle may be used to promote the raffle and fifty percent of all net  
31 proceeds must be used for elk management or other wildlife and conservation-related projects

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1 in North Dakota as described under rocky mountain elk foundation policies and objectives and  
2 all remaining net proceeds must be used for construction and maintenance of the North  
3 American wildlife enforcement memorial museum and educational center located at the  
4 international peace garden. The rocky mountain elk foundation and the North American wildlife  
5 enforcement memorial museum and educational center shall submit reports concerning the  
6 raffle as the director requires. Except for landowners who receive a license under subsection 7  
7 of section 20.1-03-11 and landowners who receive special elk depredation management  
8 licenses issued to landowners under subsection 7 of section 20.1-03-11, and persons who  
9 receive a special elk depredation management license issued by lottery under this section, a  
10 person may only receive one license to hunt elk issued by lottery in a lifetime.