

HOUSE BILL No. 1150

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 14-22-11-18.1.

Synopsis: Hunting season for disabled veterans. Provides that the director of the department of natural resources may designate four days a year as free hunting days for critically disabled veterans to take place on the same dates as free hunting days for youth. Defines "critically disabled veteran".

Effective: July 1, 2023.

Abbott, Frye R, Zent

January 10, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources.



First Regular Session of the 123rd General Assembly (2023)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1150

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning natural and cultural resources.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 14-22-11-18.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
2 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023]: **Sec. 18.1. (a) As used in this section,**
4 **"critically disabled veteran" means an individual who:**
5 **(1) served in:**
6 **(A) the armed forces of the United States or their reserves;**
7 **(B) the Indiana Army National Guard; or**
8 **(C) the Indiana Air National Guard;**
9 **(2) was released from active duty under conditions other than**
10 **dishonorable;**
11 **(3) has suffered from:**
12 **(A) the loss of a limb or limbs;**
13 **(B) the loss of one (1) or both hands;**
14 **(C) the loss of one (1) or both feet; or**
15 **(D) a permanent physical disability that requires the use of**
16 **a wheelchair, a walker, braces, or crutches;**
17 **as a result of the service described in subdivision (1); and**



- 1 **(4) has a record of the impairment described in subdivision (3)**
 2 **as evidenced by:**
 3 **(A) records of the United States Department of Veterans**
 4 **Affairs; or**
 5 **(B) disability retirement benefits awarded to the individual**
 6 **under laws administered by the United States Department**
 7 **of Defense.**
 8 **(b) The director may designate not more than four (4) days each**
 9 **year as free hunting days for critically disabled veterans to take**
 10 **place on the same dates as free hunting days for youth under**
 11 **section 18 of this chapter.**
 12 **(c) During a free hunting day for critically disabled veterans**
 13 **designated under subsection (b), a resident who is a critically**
 14 **disabled veteran may:**
 15 **(1) hunt using hunting methods that are designated by the**
 16 **director and that are legal for that hunting season; and**
 17 **(2) exercise the same privileges that a resident is entitled to**
 18 **under IC 14-22-12-1(a).**
 19 **A critically disabled veteran is not required to pay a fee or possess**
 20 **a hunting license.**
 21 **(d) A critically disabled veteran who hunts during a free**
 22 **hunting day under this section must:**
 23 **(1) comply with the conditions and rules adopted by the**
 24 **director; and**
 25 **(2) be accompanied by an individual who is at least eighteen**
 26 **(18) years of age.**
 27 **(e) The individual who accompanies a critically disabled veteran**
 28 **under subsection (d)(2):**
 29 **(1) is not required to:**
 30 **(A) hold a valid hunting license under IC 14-22-12; or**
 31 **(B) have a hunting license under this chapter;**
 32 **(2) must be in close enough proximity to:**
 33 **(A) monitor the critically disabled veteran's activities; and**
 34 **(B) communicate with the critically disabled veteran at all**
 35 **times; and**
 36 **(3) may assist the critically disabled veteran, including calling,**
 37 **but may not carry a firearm or bow and arrow.**

