



February 9, 2023

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## HOUSE BILL No. 1150

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DIGEST OF HB 1150 (Updated February 8, 2023 11:45 am - DI 148)

**Citations Affected:** IC 14-8; IC 14-22.

**Synopsis:** Hunting season for disabled veterans. Provides that the director of the department of natural resources shall designate four days a year as free hunting days for critically disabled veterans and youth hunters. Defines "critically disabled veteran".

**Effective:** July 1, 2023.

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**Abbott, Frye R, Zent, Lindauer**

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January 10, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources.  
February 9, 2023, amended, reported — Do Pass.

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HB 1150—LS 6716/DI 150





February 9, 2023

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 14-8-2-62.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
3 1, 2023]: **Sec. 62.3. "Critically disabled veteran", for purposes of**  
4 **IC 14-22-11-18, 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) **suffers from:**  
12 (A) **the loss of one (1) or more 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 individual's service described in subdivision**

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1 (1); and

2 (4) has a record of the service related impairment described  
3 in subdivision (3) as evidenced by:

4 (A) records of the United States Department of Veterans  
5 Affairs; or

6 (B) disability retirement benefits awarded to the individual  
7 under laws administered by the United States Department  
8 of Defense.

9 SECTION 2. IC 14-22-11-18, AS AMENDED BY P.L.18-2009,  
10 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
11 JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 18. (a) The director ~~may~~ **shall** designate not more  
12 than four (4) days each year as free hunting days for:

13 (1) youth hunters; and

14 (2) **critically disabled veterans.**

15 (b) During a free hunting day for ~~youth hunters~~ designated under  
16 subsection (a), a resident:

17 (1) who is less than eighteen (18) years of age may:

18 ~~(1)~~ (A) hunt using hunting methods that are designated by the  
19 director and that are legal for that hunting season; and

20 ~~(2)~~ (B) exercise the same privileges that a resident is entitled  
21 to under IC 14-22-12-1(24); or

22 (2) **who is a critically disabled veteran may:**

23 (A) **hunt using hunting methods that are designated by the**  
24 **director and that are legal for that hunting season; and**

25 (B) **exercise the same privileges that a resident is entitled**  
26 **to under IC 14-22-12-1(a).**

27 A ~~youth hunter~~ **resident described in this subsection** is not required  
28 to pay a fee or possess a hunting license.

29 (c) A:

30 (1) youth hunter who hunts during a free hunting day for youth  
31 hunters under this section must:

32 ~~(1)~~ (A) comply with the conditions and rules adopted by the  
33 director; and

34 ~~(2)~~ (B) be accompanied by an individual who:

35 ~~(A)~~ (i) is at least eighteen (18) years of age; and

36 ~~(B)~~ (ii) holds a valid hunting license under IC 14-22-12 or  
37 is not required to have a hunting license under this chapter;

38 or

39 (2) **critically disabled veteran who hunts during a free hunting**  
40 **day under this section must:**

41 (A) **comply with the conditions and rules adopted by the**  
42 **director; and**



- 1                   **(B) be accompanied by an individual who is at least**  
 2                   **eighteen (18) years of age.**  
 3           (d) The individual:  
 4           **(1) under subsection ~~(c)(2)~~ (c)(1)(B) who accompanies the youth**  
 5           **hunter:**  
 6               ~~(1)~~ **(A) must be in close enough proximity to monitor the youth**  
 7               **hunter's activities and communicate with the youth hunter at**  
 8               **all times; and**  
 9               ~~(2)~~ **(B) may assist the youth hunter, including calling, but may**  
 10              **not carry a firearm or bow and arrow; or**  
 11           **(2) under subsection (c)(2)(B) who accompanies the critically**  
 12           **disabled veteran:**  
 13               **(A) is not required to:**  
 14                   **(i) hold a valid hunting license under IC 14-22-12; or**  
 15                   **(ii) have a hunting license under this chapter;**  
 16               **(B) must be in close enough proximity to:**  
 17                   **(i) monitor the critically disabled veteran's activities;**  
 18                   **and**  
 19                   **(ii) communicate with the critically disabled veteran at**  
 20                   **all times; and**  
 21               **(C) may assist the critically disabled veteran, including**  
 22               **calling, but may not carry a firearm or bow and arrow.**



COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Natural Resources, to which was referred House Bill 1150, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert the following:

(SEE TEXT OF BILL)

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1150 as introduced.)

LINDAUER

Committee Vote: yeas 8, nays 0.

