

SENATE FILE NO. SF0094

Game and fish-resident preference points.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Driskill and Hicks and  
Representative(s) Harshman

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to game and fish; requiring preference  
2 point programs for resident antelope, deer and elk  
3 licenses; providing for fees; providing for rulemaking; and  
4 providing for an effective date.

5

6 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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8 **Section 1.** W.S. 23-1-703(g), by creating a new  
9 subsection (h) and by amending and renumbering (h) as (j)  
10 and 23-2-101(m) are amended to read:

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12 **23-1-703. Limitation of number of big or trophy game**  
13 **animal licenses; reservation of certain licenses;**  
14 **reservation of certain unused licenses.**

15

1 (g) In addition to the authority granted under  
2 subsection (b) of this section, the commission ~~may~~ shall  
3 through rule and regulation develop and implement a  
4 preference point program for resident and nonresident  
5 antelope, resident and nonresident deer and resident and  
6 nonresident elk licenses which are limited in quota and  
7 would otherwise be issued through a random drawing. A  
8 program established pursuant to this subsection may be  
9 implemented for all or selected hunt areas and may be  
10 applied to all or portions of licenses for any particular  
11 species. Allocation of resident limited quota licenses for  
12 elk, deer and antelope under the preference point program  
13 shall be as provided in subsection (h) of this section. The  
14 commission may charge ~~nonresident~~—license applicants a  
15 nonrefundable fee to accumulate preference points under the  
16 program as provided in W.S. 23-2-101(m).

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18 (h) Effective January 1, 2015, resident antelope,  
19 deer and elk licenses shall be issued partially through a  
20 preference point drawing and partially through a random  
21 drawing of all remaining unsuccessful applicants for that  
22 year. The department shall assign points to each license  
23 applicant for a specific species by multiplying the number  
24 of years the applicant has unsuccessfully applied for a

1 license times one (1), but in no event shall the applicants  
2 total points, including resident and nonresident points  
3 accumulated, exceed the maximum number of points allocated  
4 to resident applicants in that year. The calculation used  
5 to assign points to an applicant for a particular species  
6 under this subsection shall include any year the applicant  
7 does not apply for a big or trophy game animal hunting  
8 license for that species, provided the applicant pays the  
9 fee specified in W.S. 23-2-101(k). License applicants  
10 within each hunt area for a species shall be grouped  
11 according to the number of assigned points for that  
12 species. The department shall develop a method by which an  
13 applicant may submit an application as part of a party  
14 application with no more than two (2) members of his  
15 immediate family as defined in W.S. 40-14-640(a)(vi) and  
16 the entire party qualifies for the grouping of the  
17 applicant with the most points accumulated. Not less than  
18 seventy-five percent (75%) of available licenses within any  
19 hunt area shall be randomly selected through a preference  
20 point drawing from among the group of applicants with the  
21 largest number of assigned points and shall continue until  
22 all applicants within that group have been exhausted or  
23 until all available licenses have been issued, whichever  
24 first occurs. If any applicant grouping has been exhausted

1 and licenses remain available within that hunt area,  
2 selection shall continue from among the group of applicants  
3 with the next largest number of assigned points. After the  
4 selections through the preference point drawing have been  
5 completed within a hunt area, the remaining licenses  
6 available from that drawing and the licenses available for  
7 the random drawing for that hunt area will be issued  
8 through a random selection from among all applicants in the  
9 hunt area who were not selected for issuance of a license  
10 for the species through the preference point drawing in  
11 that hunt area. For purposes of assigning points under this  
12 subsection, any unsuccessful license applicant failing to  
13 apply for a license, or pay the applicable fee in lieu of  
14 applying, during the second calendar year shall be  
15 considered to be a first year applicant for any subsequent  
16 calendar year in which the applicant submits license  
17 application for that particular species.

18

19 ~~(h)~~(j) Rules and regulations shall be promulgated by  
20 the game and fish commission to carry out subsections (a)  
21 through (f) and (h) of this section and may be promulgated  
22 as provided in subsection (g) of this section.

23

1           23-2-101. Fees; restrictions; nonresident application  
2 fee; nonresident licenses; verification of residency  
3 required.

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5           (m) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, as  
6 part of any preference point program for resident and  
7 nonresident antelope, nonresident ram bighorn sheep,  
8 nonresident moose, resident and nonresident deer or  
9 resident and nonresident elk, the commission may establish  
10 a nonrefundable fee to be either withheld from the license  
11 fee remitted or submitted separately when application for a  
12 license or preference point is made through electronic  
13 licensing, and may also establish a fee to be paid in lieu  
14 of applying for licenses that are limited in quota.  
15 Retention of the established fee or payment of the fee in  
16 lieu of applying shall authorize the person to accumulate a  
17 preference point for future drawings for licenses that are  
18 limited in quota for the applicable species in accordance  
19 with rules of the commission. The rules may provide for  
20 the loss of all accumulated points for persons failing to  
21 apply or to pay the in lieu fee in two (2) consecutive  
22 calendar years. The fee for any program under this  
23 subsection for antelope, deer or elk shall be established  
24 by rule and shall not exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00) per

1 species for nonresidents and twenty dollars (\$20.00) per  
2 species for residents. Payment of the fee shall be made in  
3 compliance with application dates. Nothing in this  
4 subsection authorizes the commission to establish or retain  
5 a fee for resident moose or resident ram bighorn sheep  
6 license preference points in addition to the fee  
7 established by subsection (k) of this section or to  
8 establish rules for ram bighorn sheep or moose preference  
9 point drawings in conflict with the provisions of W.S.  
10 23-1-703(b). For nonresident ram bighorn sheep and  
11 nonresident moose licenses, the commission may establish by  
12 rule a nonrefundable preference point fee to be withheld  
13 from either the license fee remitted or submitted  
14 separately when application for a license or preference  
15 point is made through electronic licensing and may  
16 establish a fee in lieu of making application in an amount  
17 greater than that established under subsection (k) of this  
18 section, but neither fee shall exceed one hundred dollars  
19 (\$100.00). Fees established under this subsection may be  
20 set at lower amounts for youth license applicants. Nothing  
21 in this subsection shall be construed as prohibiting the  
22 commission from issuing a different number of licenses for  
23 residents and nonresidents.

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