

ENGROSSED LEGISLATIVE BILL 1127

Introduced by Dover, 19.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Game Law; to amend section 37-443, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 37-438 and 37-440, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025; to provide for hangtag permits; to change provisions relating to the display of certain permits and where such permits may be procured; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 37-438, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is amended to read:

37-438 (1) The commission shall devise annual, temporary, hangtag, disabled veteran, and active-duty military permits.

(2) The annual permit may be purchased by any person and shall be valid through December 31 in the year for which the permit is issued. The fee for the annual permit for a resident motor vehicle shall be not more than fifty dollars per permit. The fee for the annual permit for a nonresident motor vehicle shall be two times the fee for a resident motor vehicle. The commission shall establish such fees by the adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations.

(3) A temporary permit may be purchased by any person and shall be valid until noon of the day following the date of issue. The fee for the temporary permit for a resident motor vehicle shall be not more than ten dollars. The fee for the temporary permit for a nonresident motor vehicle shall be two times the fee for a resident motor vehicle. The commission shall establish such fees by the adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations. The commission may issue temporary permits which are either valid for any area or valid for a single area.

(4) Beginning January 1, 2027, an annual hangtag permit may be purchased by any person with a resident motor vehicle. The fee for the hangtag permit

shall be the combined cost of one resident annual permit, one duplicate annual permit, and a convenience fee. The hangtag permit shall be valid through December 31 in the year for which the permit is issued and only for the vehicle in which it is displayed. A hangtag permit issued pursuant to this subsection may be transferred between motor vehicles registered by the permit holder in the State of Nebraska. A hangtag permit shall not be reproduced or replaced if lost or stolen. The commission shall establish a convenience fee for hangtag permits that does not exceed fifteen dollars.

(5)(a) A veteran who is a resident of Nebraska shall, upon application and without payment of any fee, be issued one disabled veteran permit for a resident motor vehicle if the veteran:

(i) Was discharged or separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions); and

(ii)(A) Is rated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs as fifty percent or more disabled as a result of service in the armed forces of the United States; or

(B) Is receiving a pension from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs as a result of total and permanent disability, which disability was not incurred in the line of duty in the military service.

(b) All disabled veteran permits issued pursuant to this subsection shall be perpetual and shall become void only upon termination of eligibility as provided in this subsection.

(6) An active-duty military permit may be purchased by any individual who is active-duty military and shall be valid through December 31 in the year for which the permit is issued. The fee for the active-duty military permit is five dollars, regardless of residency. To qualify for an active-duty military permit, the individual shall present:

(a) Such individual's military identification card; and

(b) Proof that such individual is stationed at a military base located in Nebraska for active-duty military service.

(7) The commission may offer permits or combinations of permits at

temporarily reduced rates for specific events or during specified timeframes.

(8) The commission may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out this section.

Sec. 2. Section 37-440, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is amended to read:

37-440 (1) The commission shall prescribe the type and design of permits. Permits shall be:

(a) Clearly visible from outside the vehicle;

(b) Except as provided in subdivision (1)(c) of this section, displayed by affixing the permit upon the lower portion of the driver's side interior front windshield of the motor vehicle; and

(c) For hangtag permits, displayed by being hung from the rearview mirror or placed upon the front dash if no rearview mirror is present.

(2)(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b) of this subsection, the permits may be procured from the central and district offices of the commission, at designated areas of the Nebraska state park system where commission offices are maintained, from self-service vending stations at designated park areas, from designated commission employees, through Internet sales from the commission's website, from appropriate offices of county government, and from various private persons, firms, or corporations designated by the commission as permit agents. The commission and county offices or private persons, firms, or corporations designated by the commission as permit agents shall be entitled to collect and retain an issuing fee pursuant to section 37-406.

(b) Hangtag permits may be procured from the central and district offices of the commission and at designated areas of the Nebraska state park system.

Sec. 3. Section 37-443, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

37-443 It is unlawful for a motor vehicle to enter a permit area unless a valid permit is displayed in or on the vehicle in the manner prescribed by the commission. A permit shall be required for entry at any time of the year.

Except for hangtag permits, a permit shall be nontransferable and valid only for the motor vehicle for which issued. Any person who operates a motor vehicle in violation of this section shall be guilty of a Class V misdemeanor, and the court shall order the confiscation of any permit purchased or used in violation of this section. If the identity of the operator of a motor vehicle in violation of this section cannot be determined, the owner or person in whose name such vehicle is registered shall be held prima facie responsible for such violation and shall be guilty of a Class V misdemeanor.

Sec. 4. Original section 37-443, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 37-438 and 37-440, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, are repealed.

PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATURE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the within LB 1127 was passed by the One Hundred Ninth Legislature of Nebraska at its Second Session on the day of 20.....

CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE

Approved:

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GOVERNOR