



2013 SENATE BILL 692

March 24, 2014 – Introduced by Senator T. CULLEN. Referred to Natural Resources.

- 1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 29.563 (13) (b); and *to create* 29.235 (3r) and 29.563 (4) (a) 2w.
2 of the statutes; **relating to:** issuance of conservation patron licenses to certain
3 disabled veterans.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issues various hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses, permits, and tags (approvals). DNR also issues certain combination licenses, including resident and nonresident conservation patron licenses. A conservation patron license confers upon the licensee the combined privileges of certain approvals, including a small game hunting license, a deer hunting license, an archer hunting license, and an annual fishing license. A conservation patron license also confers certain other privileges, including the authority to take a motor vehicle into state parks and certain other areas without a vehicle admission receipt.

This bill requires that a veteran who is a state resident be issued a conservation patron license at a lower fee than the regular license fee if he or she produces evidence showing that he or she has a service-connected disability rating of 70 percent or greater, as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), or is receiving disability benefits from the VA due to being unemployable based on his or her education and skills as well as his or her medical condition.

