

**Second Regular Session
Sixty-seventh General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 10-1088.01 Kate Meyer

SENATE BILL 10-211

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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Senate Committees

Agriculture and Natural Resources

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING BIG GAME HUNTING LICENSES FOR MEMBERS OF THE**
102 **UNITED STATES ARMED SERVICES WOUNDED WARRIOR**
103 **PROGRAMS WHO HAVE SUSTAINED SEVERE COMBAT-RELATED**
104 **INJURIES WHILE SERVING IN POST-SEPTEMBER 11, 2001,**
105 **OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

The bill authorizes the state wildlife commission to reduce or

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

eliminate big game hunting license fees and establish a big game hunting license preference for members of the United States armed services wounded warrior programs who are residents of, or stationed in, Colorado and who have sustained severe injuries in certain post-September 11, 2001, combat operations. The purposes of the bill, as set forth in its legislative declaration, are to provide assistance for such "wounded warriors" during their rehabilitation and to acknowledge their service and sacrifice.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** 33-4-102, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended
3 BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:

4 **33-4-102. Types of licenses and fees - rules - repeal.**

5 (1.9) (a) (I) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY FINDS, DETERMINES, AND
6 DECLARES THAT:

7 (A) SERVICE MEMBERS RETURNING FROM POST-SEPTEMBER 11,
8 2001, OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS WHO HAVE BEEN INJURED
9 DURING COMBAT FACE A CHALLENGING PERIOD OF REHABILITATION UPON
10 THEIR RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES;

11 (B) MANY OF THESE SERVICE MEMBERS ARE SO SEVERELY INJURED
12 THAT THEY REQUIRE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR MANY YEARS, OR EVEN
13 THE REST OF THEIR LIVES, AS THEY REENTER MAINSTREAM LIFE;

14 (C) ALTHOUGH THE SCOPE OF CARE PROVIDED BY THE UNITED
15 STATES ARMED SERVICES WOUNDED WARRIOR PROGRAMS VARIES WITH
16 EACH SERVICE MEMBER, BASED ON THE NEEDS OF THE INDIVIDUAL, THESE
17 SERVICE MEMBERS MAY BE ASSIGNED, UPON RETURN TO COLORADO, TO A
18 MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITY SUCH AS EVANS ARMY HOSPITAL AT FORT
19 CARSON, COLORADO;

20 (D) WOUNDED WARRIOR PROGRAMS ARE DIRECT EFFORTS BY THE
21 UNITED STATES ARMED SERVICES TO CARE FOR SERVICE MEMBERS DURING

1 THEIR LONG TRANSITION FROM COMBAT-RELATED INJURY TO CIVILIAN LIFE
2 AND TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THOSE SERVICE MEMBERS IN RECOVERY,
3 REHABILITATION, AND REINTEGRATION THAT IS WORTHY OF THEIR SERVICE
4 AND SACRIFICE; AND

5 (E) FOR THOSE WOUNDED WARRIORS WHO SUFFER INJURIES SO
6 SEVERE THAT THEY WILL REQUIRE INTENSE, ONGOING CARE OR
7 ASSISTANCE FOR MANY YEARS OR THE REST OF THEIR LIVES, A SIGNIFICANT
8 PART OF THE HEALING PROCESS IS ENABLING AND ENCOURAGING THESE
9 SERVICE MEMBERS TO EXPERIENCE SOME OF THE RECREATIONAL
10 ACTIVITIES THEY ENJOYED PRIOR TO THEIR SERVICE-RELATED INJURIES.

11 (II) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THEREFORE RECOGNIZES THE NEED
12 TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLORADO'S SEVERELY INJURED
13 "WOUNDED WARRIORS" TO ENJOY THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE STATE
14 AS PART OF THEIR REHABILITATIVE CARE. FURTHERMORE, OFFERING
15 REDUCED-COST OR FREE BIG GAME HUNTING LICENSES TO SUCH
16 RECOVERING SERVICE MEMBERS IS A SMALL, BUT RECOGNIZABLE,
17 ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THEIR SELFLESS SERVICE AND SACRIFICE.

18 (b) THE COMMISSION MAY PROMULGATE RULES TO REDUCE OR
19 ELIMINATE BIG GAME LICENSE FEES AND ESTABLISH A BIG GAME HUNTING
20 LICENSE PREFERENCE FOR MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED
21 SERVICES WOUNDED WARRIOR PROGRAMS WHO ARE RESIDENTS OF, OR
22 STATIONED IN, COLORADO AND WHO HAVE BEEN SO SEVERELY INJURED
23 THAT THEY WILL REQUIRE YEARS OF INTENSE, ONGOING CARE OR
24 ASSISTANCE.

25 (c) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (1.9), "UNITED STATES ARMED
26 SERVICES WOUNDED WARRIOR PROGRAMS" MEANS:

27 (I) THE ARMY WOUNDED WARRIOR (AW2) PROGRAM;

1 (II) THE AIR FORCE WOUNDED WARRIOR (AFW2) PROGRAM;
2 (III) THE NAVY SAFE HARBOR PROGRAM;
3 (IV) THE COAST GUARD WOUNDED WARRIOR REGIMENT; AND
4 (V) ANY SUCCESSOR PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY A BRANCH OF
5 THE UNITED STATES ARMED SERVICES TO PROVIDE INDIVIDUALIZED
6 SUPPORT FOR SERVICE MEMBERS WHO HAVE BEEN SEVERELY INJURED IN
7 OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS UNDERTAKEN SINCE SEPTEMBER
8 11, 2001.

9 (d) THE COMMISSION MAY ADOPT RULES TO IMPLEMENT THIS
10 SUBSECTION (1.9), INCLUDING RULES DEFINING "SEVERELY INJURED" AND
11 ESTABLISHING RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICE MEMBERS
12 ELIGIBLE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (1.9).

13 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
14 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
15 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.