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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HUNTING.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that hunting is a  
2 valuable component of Hawaiian culture. In order to carry on  
3 this tradition, hunting education should be more accessible to  
4 newcomers to the sport. Enhanced accessibility will allow the  
5 next generation of hunters to learn safe and responsible hunting  
6 practices. Accessibility may be achieved by providing an online  
7 hunter education program and establishing an apprentice hunting  
8 permit program.

9           The legislature also finds that online education classes  
10 are becoming more prevalent in society today. Making the hunter  
11 education program available online will provide convenience and  
12 flexibility for future hunters.

13           The legislature further finds that mentored hunting, also  
14 called apprentice hunting, allows a person to experience hunting  
15 prior to completing any required hunter education courses.  
16 Presently, more than half of states operate a mentored hunting  
17 program. These programs attract new hunters of all ages by



1 allowing a prospective hunter to gain experience under the  
2 direct supervision of a seasoned mentor. These programs also  
3 allow for young hunters' earliest hunting experiences to involve  
4 active participation, rather than classroom hunter education  
5 courses.

6 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of  
7 land and natural resources to:

8 (1) Make the hunting education program available online;  
9 and

10 (2) Issue hunting apprentice permits authorizing persons  
11 without a hunting license, including children age ten  
12 and older, to hunt under the direct supervision of a  
13 licensed hunter.

14 SECTION 2. Chapter 183D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by adding a new section to part II to be appropriately  
16 designated and to read as follows:

17 "§183D- Hunting apprentice permit. (a) The department  
18 shall issue a hunting apprentice permit to any Hawaii resident  
19 age ten or older who:

20 (1) Has never been issued a hunting license or a hunting  
21 apprentice permit in the State;



1       (2) Submits a \$15 fee; and  
 2       (3) Submits a written application in the form prescribed  
 3       by the department; provided that an application on  
 4       behalf of a minor shall be submitted and signed by the  
 5       minor's parent or legal guardian.

6       (b) A hunting apprentice permit shall be valid for twenty-  
 7       four months from the date of issue.

8       (c) A hunting apprentice permittee may engage in hunting;  
 9       provided that at all times while hunting the permittee shall:

10       (1) Possess the hunting apprentice permit; and

11       (2) Be accompanied by a licensed hunter who is eighteen  
 12       years of age or older.

13       (d) Successful completion of the hunter education program  
 14       is not a requirement to obtain a hunting apprentice permit. A  
 15       hunting apprentice permit shall not be in lieu of obtaining a  
 16       hunting license.

17       (e) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
 18       91 to implement this section."

19       SECTION 3. Section 134-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
 20 amended as follows:

21       1. By amending subsection (a) to read:



1           "(a) Any person of the age of sixteen years, or over or  
2 any person under the age of sixteen years while accompanied by  
3 an adult, may carry and use any lawfully acquired rifle or  
4 shotgun and suitable ammunition while actually engaged in  
5 hunting or target shooting or while going to and from the place  
6 of hunting or target shooting; provided that the person has  
7 procured a hunting license or a hunting apprentice permit under  
8 chapter 183D, part II. A hunting license shall not be required  
9 for persons engaged in target shooting."

10           2. By amending subsection (c) to read:

11           "(c) A person may carry unconcealed and use a lawfully  
12 acquired pistol or revolver while actually engaged in hunting  
13 game mammals, if that pistol or revolver and its suitable  
14 ammunition are acceptable for hunting by rules adopted pursuant  
15 to section 183D-3 and if that person is licensed or holds a  
16 hunting apprentice permit pursuant to part II of chapter 183D.  
17 The pistol or revolver may be transported in an enclosed  
18 container, as defined in section 134-25 in the course of going  
19 to and from the place of the hunt, notwithstanding section 134-  
20 26."



1 SECTION 4. Section 183D-28, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

3 "(a) The department shall establish a hunter education  
4 program, which may be completed in person and online, to provide  
5 instruction in hunter safety, principles of conservation, and  
6 sportsmanship. Upon successful completion of the program, the  
7 department shall issue to the graduate a hunter education  
8 certificate which shall be valid for the life of the person.  
9 This certification shall be rescinded by judicial action upon  
10 the conviction of a wildlife and/or firearms violation. No  
11 person shall be eligible for a hunting license unless the person  
12 possesses a valid hunter education certificate or meets the  
13 requirements for exemption provided in subsection (b)(2), and is  
14 either:

- 15 (1) Born after December 31, 1971; or
- 16 (2) Born before January 1, 1972, and has never been issued  
17 a hunting license in the State."

18 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
2 provided that section 4 shall take effect on January 1, 2016.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Cindy Evans

JAN 23 2015



# H.B. NO. 519

**Report Title:**

Hunting; Hunter Education Program; Hunting Apprentice Permit;  
DLNR

**Description:**

Establishes requirements for DLNR to issue hunting apprentice permits authorizing persons without a hunting license to hunt under direct supervision of a licensed hunter. Requires the hunter education program to be available online.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

