**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 50‑9‑320, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE REQUIREMENT THAT CERTAIN PERSONS MUST SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A HUNTER’S EDUCATION PROGRAM BEFORE THEY ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A SOUTH CAROLINA HUNTING LICENSE, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THIS REQUIREMENT DOES NOT APPLY TO ACTIVE OR RETIRED UNITED STATES ARMED SERVICES PERSONNEL WHO CAN DEMONSTRATE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES THAT THEY RECEIVED WEAPONS TRAINING DURING THEIR MILITARY CAREER.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 50‑9‑320 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 50‑9‑320. No resident or nonresident born after June 30, 1979, may obtain a hunting license in this State unless he first exhibits the certificate of completion he receives pursuant to Section 50‑9‑310 to the authorized hunting license agent from whom he desires to buy a license. A certificate of successful completion of a hunter’s education program issued by other states or territories of the United States, Canadian provinces, or other nations is valid for purposes of this article if the department approves the course as comparable to the program required by this article. A license issued in violation of this section is invalid.

The provisions of this section requiring completion of a hunter’s education program as a prerequisite to receiving a hunting license do not apply to active or retired United States Armed Services personnel who can demonstrate to the department that they received weapons training during their military career.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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