



## 2026 South Dakota Legislature

# Senate Bill 160

Introduced by: **Senator Pischke**

1 **An Act to require the registration of fishing guides.**

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

3 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 41-6:**

4 An individual may not, for consideration, provide fishing guide services without  
 5 annually registering as a guide with the Department of Game, Fish and Parks.

6 An individual who provides fishing guide services without being registered is guilty  
 7 of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The provision of guide services to each individual client  
 8 constitutes a distinct and separate offense.

9 **Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 41-6:**

10 An individual seeking to register as a fishing guide shall annually submit an  
 11 application to the Department of Game, Fish and Parks. The department shall make the  
 12 application available on its website, and in printed form upon request.

13 To be eligible for registration as a fishing guide, an individual must:

14 (1) Be at least twenty-one years of age;

15 (2) Pay a registration fee in the amount of:

16 (a) Fifty dollars, if a resident of this state; or

17 (b) Two hundred fifty dollars, if a nonresident of this state; and

18 (3) Agree to submit a report to the department, as required in section 3 of this Act.

19 Any fee submitted for registration as a fishing guide, in accordance with this  
 20 section, is nonrefundable.

21 The department shall forward any fee collected for registration as a fishing guide  
 22 to the state treasurer for deposit into the department of game, fish and parks fund, and  
 23 shall use the amount proportionally to support fish restocking efforts in the bodies of water  
 24 from which fish were taken, as reported in accordance with section 3 of this Act.

25 Registration as a fishing guide is valid through March thirty-first of each year.

1 **Section 3. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 41-6:**

2 Each registered fishing guide shall submit electronically to the department, at the  
3 conclusion of each daily guided trip, a document showing:

4 (1) The date;

5 (2) The guide's name and registration number;

6 (3) The name and address of each individual participating in the guided trip;

7 (4) The body of water on which the guide services were provided; and

8 (5) The species and number of fish taken.

9 **Section 4. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 41-6:**

10 The Game, Fish and Parks Commission may, in accordance with chapter 1-26:

11 (1) Deny an application for registration as a fishing guide upon a determination that  
12 the application contains a material misrepresentation of any required information;

13 or

14 (2) Suspend the registration of any fishing guide upon a determination that:

15 (a) The guide has, without cause, failed to provide the daily report required in  
16 accordance with section 3 of this Act; or

17 (b) Has misrepresented information contained in the daily report.